



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

February 9, 2026

Senator Guy Guzzone
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Opposition to Senate Bill 500 – Washington County – Property Tax Credit for
Disabled Veterans – Eligibility


The Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) unanimously opposes the passage of the proposed legislation that would expand the definition of eligible veterans for a property tax credit in Washington County.

The Board has immense respect for its citizens who have served in our armed forces and this respect goes double for those veterans who were wounded in the line of duty. That said, the proposed legislation expands the definition to branches and agencies not previously eligible for the tax credit and the Board feels that the delegation did not consider the potential implications of this expansion before proposing this Bill. A detailed analysis of the Bill’s impact is critical for the County to accurately assess the extent of revenue loss this would cause. For the second year in a row, the State of Maryland finds itself combatting an immense budget deficit. As the delegation is aware, painful decisions and budget cuts at the State level continue to trickle down to the Counties, ultimately resulting in lower budgets at the local level. Currently, Washington County relies upon property taxes as one of its primary sources of income. The Board cannot support this legislation without more information on the potential impact that this property tax credit will have on the County’s ability to provide services for its citizens.

For this reason, the Board asks that the Senate refrain from supporting this bill at this time.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: 
John F. Barr, President

cc (via email) Washington County Delegation