



Frederick County Council Steven J. McKay, District 2

HB1611 – Property Tax – Credit for Dwelling House of Disabled Veterans and Surviving Spouses – Income Eligibility

DATE: March 18, 2026
COMMITTEE: House Ways and Means Committee
POSITION: Favorable
FROM: Steven J. McKay, Frederick County Council, District 2

I would like to strongly urge the House Ways and Means Committee to give HB1611 a favorable report to enable Baltimore City and all Maryland counties to have the authority and flexibility to establish income eligibility requirements for the Disabled Veterans Property Tax Credit.

As a member of the Frederick County Council, I sponsored this bill which received unanimous support from our Council and our County Executive. I greatly appreciate Delegate Pippy for taking a leadership role and bringing this bill forward for your consideration.

This is State-wide enabling legislation to provide Baltimore City and all Maryland counties the authority to establish our own income eligibility requirement for this property tax credit program. This will not impact State revenue projections because the property tax credit applies only to local property taxes.

Most importantly, however, is that our Disabled Veterans have served this nation, have served us all, and given of themselves so much. We owe them a debt that we can never adequately repay. The Disabled Veterans Property Tax Credit program is only a small token of our esteem and our gratitude for their service and sacrifice. That gratitude shouldn't be hedged by artificial income limitations. How we thank them for their service and sacrifice shouldn't be limited by whether someone thinks that they "make too much." No, our gratitude should have no bounds, should have no limits, and removing this artificial income limitation from Maryland code, and allowing local authorities to make this decision is just a small token – but something we can and must do.

I hope that you will agree and provide a "Favorable" report on this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S J McKay".

Steve McKay
Frederick County Council, District 2