

SENATE BILL 139

Q1

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By: **Senators Madaleno and Miller, Miller, and Jones**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2010

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 24, 2010

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Property Tax – Exemption for Disabled Veterans and Surviving Spouses**
3 ~~Definition~~ **Public Health Service and NOAA Officers and Surviving Spouses**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “disabled veteran” for purposes of a
5 certain property tax exemption for dwelling houses owned by certain disabled
6 veterans or surviving spouses of disabled veterans or of certain individuals who
7 died while in the active military, naval, or air service of the United States;
8 providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to a property tax
9 exemption for disabled veterans.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Tax – Property
12 Section 7–208(a) and (d)(1)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
16 Article – Tax – Property
17 Section 7–208(b)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
21 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 **Article – Tax – Property**

2 7–208.

3 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

4 (2) (i) “Disabled veteran” means an individual who:

5 1. is honorably discharged or released under honorable
6 circumstances from active **MILITARY, NAVAL, OR AIR** service [in any branch of the
7 armed forces] **AS DEFINED IN 38 U.S.C. § 101**; and8 2. has been declared by the Veterans’ Administration to
9 have a permanent 100% service connected disability that results from blindness or
10 other disabling cause that:11 A. is reasonably certain to continue for the life of the
12 veteran; and13 B. was not caused or incurred by misconduct of the
14 veteran.15 (ii) “Disabled veteran” includes an individual who qualifies
16 posthumously for a 100% service connected disability.

17 (3) “Dwelling house”:

18 (i) means real property that is:

19 1. the legal residence of a disabled veteran or a
20 surviving spouse; and

21 2. occupied by not more than 2 families; and

22 (ii) includes the lot or curtilage and structures necessary to use
23 the real property as a residence.24 (4) “Surviving spouse” means a surviving spouse, who has not
25 remarried:

26 (i) of a disabled veteran;

27 (ii) of an individual who died in line of duty; or

28 (iii) who receives Dependency and Indemnity Compensation
29 from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

1 (5) “Individual who died in line of duty” means an individual who died
2 while in the active military, naval, or air service of the United States as a result of an
3 injury or disease that is deemed under 38 U.S.C. § 105 to have been incurred in line of
4 duty.

5 (b) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, a dwelling house is
6 exempt from property tax if:

7 (1) the dwelling house is owned by:

8 (i) a disabled veteran;

9 (ii) a surviving spouse of an individual who died in line of duty,
10 if:

11 1. the dwelling house was owned by the individual at the
12 time of the individual’s death;

13 2. the dwelling house was acquired by the surviving
14 spouse within 2 years of the individual’s death, if the individual or the surviving
15 spouse was domiciled in the State as of the date of the individual’s death; or

16 3. the dwelling house was acquired after the surviving
17 spouse qualified for exemption for a former dwelling house under item 1 or 2 of this
18 item, to the extent of the previous exemption; or

19 (iii) a surviving spouse of a disabled veteran who meets the
20 requirements of subsection (c) of this section; and

21 (2) the application requirements of subsection (d) of this section are
22 met.

23 (d) (1) A disabled veteran or a surviving spouse of a disabled veteran shall
24 apply for an exemption under this section by providing to the supervisor:

25 (i) a copy of the disabled veteran’s discharge certificate from
26 active **MILITARY, NAVAL, OR AIR** service [in the armed forces]; and

27 (ii) on the form provided by the Department, a certification of
28 the disabled veteran’s disability from the Veterans’ Administration.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
30 June 1, 2010, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after June 30,
31 2010.