

Introduced 11/7/16
Public Hearing 11/21/16
Council Action 12/5/16
Executive Action 12/9/16
Effective Date 2/8/17

County Council Of Howard County, Maryland

2016 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 17

Bill No. 75-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT establishing a tax credit against the County tax imposed on real property that is owned by individuals who are at least 65 years of age and have lived in the same dwelling for the preceding 40 years or who are at least 65 years of age and a retired member of the Armed Forces of the United States, under certain conditions; establishing the amount, terms, conditions, and duration of the credit; providing for an application procedure and administration of the credit; and generally relating to real property tax credits.

Introduced and read first time November 7, 2016. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on November 21, 2016.

By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on December 5, 2016 and Passed , Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.

By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 7th day of December, 2016 at 5 a.m./p.m.

By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved Vetoed by the County Executive Dec 9, 2016

Allan H. Kittleman
Allan H. Kittleman, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment

1 **Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that the Howard
2 County Code is amended as follows:

3
4 By adding Title 20 "Taxes, Charges, and Fees"
5 Section 20.129E "Property tax credits for Seniors and Retired Military Personnel".

6
7 **Title 20. Taxes, Charges, and Fees.**

8 **Subtitle 1. Real Property Tax; Administration, Credits, And Enforcement.**

9 **Part III. State-Authorized Howard County Tax Credits.**

10
11 **SECTION 20.129E. PROPERTY TAX CREDIT FOR SENIORS AND RETIRED MILITARY PERSONNEL.**

12 (A) *DEFINITIONS.* IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING TERMS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED:

- 13 (1) *ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES* SHALL MEAN THE ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE,
14 MARINES, AND COAST GUARD.
15 (2) *DWELLING* HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 9-105 OF THE TAX-PROPERTY
16 ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.
17 (3) *ELIGIBLE COUNTY TAX* MEANS THE AMOUNT OF COUNTY TAX ON THE LESSER OF
18 \$500,000 OR THE ASSESSED VALUE OF THE DWELLING REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT OF
19 ANY ASSESSMENT ON WHICH A PROPERTY TAX CREDIT IS GRANTED UNDER SECTION
20 9-105 OF THE TAX-PROPERTY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.

21 (B) *CREDIT ESTABLISHED AND ELIGIBILITY.* IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 9-258 OF THE TAX-
22 PROPERTY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, THE OWNER OF A DWELLING MAY
23 RECEIVE A PROPERTY TAX CREDIT AGAINST THE COUNTY PROPERTY TAX IMPOSED ON THE
24 PROPERTY CONTAINING THE DWELLING IF THE PROPERTY IS OWNED BY AN INDIVIDUAL:

- 25 (1) WHO IS AT LEAST 65 YEARS OLD AND HAS LIVED IN THE SAME DWELLING FOR AT
26 LEAST THE PRECEDING 40 YEARS; OR
27 (2) WHO IS AT LEAST 65 YEARS OLD AND IS A RETIRED MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES
28 OF THE UNITED STATES.

29 (C) *AMOUNT OF CREDIT.* AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS THE QUALIFICATIONS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF
30 THIS SECTION IS ELIGIBLE FOR A PROPERTY TAX CREDIT EQUAL TO 20 PERCENT OF THE ELIGIBLE
31 COUNTY TAX.

1 (D) *DURATION OF CREDIT.* THE CREDIT MAY BE GRANTED FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO FIVE YEARS AND
2 AS LONG AS THE PROPERTY OWNER REMAINS QUALIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.

3 (E) *PROHIBITION.* A PROPERTY OWNER WHO IS GRANTED A CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT
4 BE GRANTED A CREDIT UNDER SECTION 20-129 OF THIS CODE DURING THE SAME FISCAL YEAR.

5 (F) *APPLICATION.* TO RECEIVE THE TAX CREDIT, A PROPERTY OWNER SHALL SUBMIT AN
6 APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:

- 7 (1) ON THE FORM THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE REQUIRES;
- 8 (2) THAT DEMONSTRATES THAT THE OWNER IS ENTITLED TO THE CREDIT; AND
- 9 (3) ON OR BEFORE THE DATE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE SETS.

10 (G) *ADMINISTRATION.* THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE MAY ADOPT GUIDELINES, REGULATIONS, OR
11 PROCEDURES TO ADMINISTER THIS SECTION.

12 (H) *PUBLICITY:*

- 13 (1) THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE SHALL DEVELOP AND CARRY OUT A PLAN TO PUBLICIZE
14 THE CREDIT AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION. THE PLAN SHALL BE DESIGNED TO
15 REACH THOSE TAXPAYERS MOST LIKELY TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE CREDIT.
- 16 (2) THE OFFICE ON AGING AND INDEPENDENCE, OR ANOTHER APPROPRIATE UNIT OF
17 COUNTY GOVERNMENT THAT THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SELECTS, SHALL DEVELOP
18 AND CARRY OUT A PLAN TO EDUCATE SENIOR CITIZENS ABOUT THE CREDIT
19 AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION.

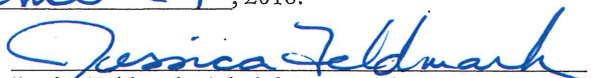
20 (I) *EFFECTIVE DATE.* THE TAX CREDIT AUTHORIZED BY SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION APPLIES
21 TO TAX YEARS BEGINNING AFTER JUNE 30, 2017.

22

23 ***Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
24 *this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on December 9, 2016.


Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Chairman Ball and members of the council, good evening. My name is Peter Green; I live at 9117 Northfield Road 21042 and am testifying in favor of cb 75-2016.

This bill, if enacted into law, will encourage ageing in place and will also recognize long military service.

My wife, Ann, and I have lived in our home since September, 1976. I am retired military, by virtue of two years on active duty and 22 years in the Army reserve. And, we are well over 65. The bill would mean a decrease of \$800-900 in our annual county property tax, which is no small thing.

What would be the impact on county revenues if this bill were to be enacted? Looking at a small and non-representative sample, there were 15 houses in our immediate neighborhood of Northfield, Southfield and Club Court when Ann and I moved in. Of these houses, two are occupied by homeowners to whom the provisions of this bill would apply. A further 12 houses have been built since on these three streets. Are any of those occupied by military retirees over 65? Based on knowledge of the neighborhood, a few maybe, but no more than that. So, and again based on a non-representative sample, the impact on county revenues should be slight.

Reply all | Delete Junk |

FILE COPY

HCCA Testimony last night on CB75

PV

Paul Verchinski <verchinski@yahoo.com>

Today, 9:07 AM

CouncilMail; Paul Verchinski <verchinski@yahoo.com>

Reply all |

Keep

CB 75-2016tESTIMONY....

22 KB

Download

Amendments proposed are in the attachment. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

Paul Verchinski 5475 Sleeping Dog Lane Columbia, MD 21045 410.997-3879

CB 75-2016 HB898 ADOPTION IN HOCO

GOOD EVENING DR. BALL AND MEMBERS OF THE HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL

THE HOWARD COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION IS FOR CB75 AND WE WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST SOME AMENDMENTS.

1. THERE IS A POTENTIAL FOR SOME CONFLICT WITH OTHER OLDER ADULT CREDITS LIKE CB74. THERE IS A LIVEABLE HOMES TAX CREDIT WHERE ONE CAN MAKE CHANGES TO YOUR HOUSE LIKE A ZERO STEP ENTRY, WIDEN DOORWAYS, ETC. YOU CAN GET A MAXIMUM PROPERTY TAX CREDIT OF \$2500 IF YOU SPEND \$5000. THIS IS THE MAXIMUM CREDIT IN ANY GIVEN YEAR. WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT SOMEONE GETS BOTH THE 20% PROPOSED IN CB75 AS WELL AS THE \$2500.

THE 20% CREDIT CAN BE FIGURED TWO WAYS WHEN COMBINED WITH THE LIVEABLE HOMES CREDIT. WE RECCOMEND THAT THE 20% SHOULD BE FIGURED FIRST ON THE PROPERTY TAX AND THEN THE \$2500 MAXIMUM. AN EXAMPLE, 20% OF A \$4000 PROPERTY TAX EQUALS \$800 PLUS \$2500 IF THE LIVEABLE HOMES CREDIT MAXIMUM IS TAKEN SECOND. OWNER WOULD OWE \$700. WHAT WE DO NOT WANT TO SEE IS THE \$2500 DEDUCTED FIRST AND THE 20% TAKEN ON THE REMAINING \$1500 OR \$300. OWNER WOULD OWE \$1200. THIS PRECEDANCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN THE LEGISLATION.

2. PAGE 1, LINE 24 STATES "IF THE PROPERTY IS OWNED BY AN INDIVIDUAL". PROPERTY IS TITLED IN VARIOUS WAYS INCLUDING REVOCABLE TRUSTS. TRUSTS SHOULD BE ELIGIBLE WHERE AN INDIVIDUAL CONTROLS THE PROPERTY THRU A TRUST.

3. RETIRED VETERANS COULD IMMEDIATLY RECEIVE THE 20% CREDIT. PAGE 1 LINE 28 SHOULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT AFTER "UNITED STATES", " AND HAS LIVED IN THE SAME DWELLING FOR AT LEAST THE PRECEDING 10 YEARS"

4. THE DEFINITION OF ARMED FORCES DOES NOT INCLUDE THE NATIONAL GUARD. THE NATIONAL GUARD HAS BEEN CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY IN MANY WARS. HB898 DOES NOT INCLUDE A DEFINITION FOR ARMED FORCES SO IT APPEARS THAT THE NATIONAL GUARD VETERANS COULD BE ELIGIBLE. WE SUGGEST ON PAGE 1, LINE 14 AN AMENDMENT AFTER "COAST GUARD" "MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD WHO HAVE SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY".

5. PAGE 2 , LINE 1 STATES THAT "THE CREDIT MAY BE GRANTED FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO FIVE YEARS". THIS IS PERMISSIVE LANGUAGE FROM

HB898 THAT IS DECIDED BY COUNTY LEGISLATION. THE "MAY" SHOULD BE CHANGED TO "SHALL" OTHERWISE IT WILL BE UP TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO DECIDE THE PERIOD BY EXECUTIVE ORDER.

I WOULD BE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THSE SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS.

CB 74 , CB 75 - 2016

2016 Legislative Session - "Property Tax Credit for 65+ and Veterans"

SK
O

Stu Kohn <stukohn@verizon.net>

Reply all |

Mon 10/31, 8:49 PM

Kittleman, Allan; Wilson, B Diane; CouncilMail; howard-citizen@yahoo

News Realease - Senior-...

166 KB

HCCA - Property Tax Cr...

43 KB

FILE COPY

2 attachments (209 KB) Download all

FYI,

Just wanted to share the News Release regarding the Howard County Citizens Association (HCCA) see below or the attachment (HCCA – Property Tax Credit for 65+ and Veterans) recent inquiry sent to County Executive Allan Kittleman and the County Council about legislation regarding "Property Tax Credit for 65+ and Veterans." The good news is the Administration was ahead of our request for potential action. The legislation is scheduled to be introduced by the County Council on 7 Nov, the Public Hearing is on 21 Nov, and the Final Vote by the Council is scheduled for 5 Dec. All will be held starting at 7PM located at the George Howard Building in the Banneker room.

We are proud to say our HCCA Board Member, Paul Verchinski has for years been very involved in Aging in Place Topics. He has been pursuing this particular subject with our elected officials which is deeply appreciated by our HCCA Board and by our members.

We hope that the Council will unanimously pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn
HCCA, President

Date: October 27, 2016

Subject: Maryland Enacted House Bill 898, 2016 Legislative Session, "Property Tax Credit - Elderly Individuals and Veterans" (HB898)

To: Chairman Dr. Calvin Ball, Howard County Council
Jen Terresa, Howard County Council

Paul Verchinski of the Howard County Citizens Association (HCCA) Board met with you on September 6th regarding the above referenced Subject. HB898 provides state enabling legislation for Howard County to enact its own property tax credit for the elderly and veterans. The HCCA Board unanimously endorsed HB898 suggestions made to you by Paul Verchinski at our Board meeting on October 18.

To reiterate, the suggestions were as follows:

1. Provide a 20% property tax credit for a period of 5 years for all residents that are 65 or older and have lived in the same dwelling for at least the last 40 years, and
2. Provide a 20% property tax credit for a period of 5 years for veterans that are 65 or older and have lived in the same dwelling for at least the last 10 years.

As you know, the cost of living is very high in Howard County and retirees typically experience a 50%+ cut in their income when they retire. This will aid retirees and veterans financially. Retirees who have paid Howard County property taxes for 40+ years have paid at an average minimum of approximately \$100,000 to \$200,000+ during this period.

If you desire, HCCA would assist you in developing this needed legislation.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn
HCCA, President



HCCA

Howard County Citizens Association

Since 1961...

The Voice Of The People of Howard County

Date: October 27, 2016

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2. Provide a 20% property tax credit for a period of 5 years for veterans that are 65 or older and have lived in the same dwelling for at least the last 10 years.

As you know, the cost of living is very high in Howard County and retirees typically experience a 50%+ cut in their income when they retire. This will aid retirees and veterans financially. Retirees who have paid Howard County property taxes for 40+ years have paid at an average minimum of approximately \$100,000 to \$200,000+ during this period.

If you desire, HCCA would assist you in developing this needed legislation.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn
HCCA, President

cc: County Council - Greg Fox, Jon Weinstein, Mary Kay Sigaty
County Executive Allan Kittleman



Howard County Government News Release

Office of Public Information
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

410-313-2022 / FAX 410-313-3390 / www.howardcountymd.gov

Deidre N. McCabe
Director of Communications
dmccabe@howardcountymd.gov

October 25, 2016

Media Contact:

Deidre McCabe, Director of Communications, Office of Public Information, 410-313-2022
Starr Sowers, Administrator, Office on Aging and Independence, 410-313-6410
Lisa Terry, Administrator, Office of Veterans and Military Families, 410-313-6400

Executive Kittleman seeks expansion of Senior Tax Credit and creation of Aging-in-Place Tax Credit

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – To help Howard County seniors and retired military age in place, County Executive Allan H. Kittleman today announced he will seek expansion of the Senior Tax Credit and the creation of additional tax credits for eligible homeowners.

Kittleman said the reason to expand tax credits comes as the overall county population continues to age. In 2010, 10 percent of residents were 65 or older. By 2025, this will increase to 18 percent and by 2035, nearly 22 percent.

“We need to make sure our residents are given an opportunity to stay in their homes,” said Kittleman. “It’s absolutely critical we plan for this and have mechanisms in place to assist them.”

Providing additional services to the county’s senior population has been a priority since taking office, Kittleman said. He has elevated the county’s Office on Aging and Independence administrator to a cabinet-level position and has renamed all senior centers to 50+ Centers to accommodate the growing demand for services, including from aging Baby Boomers.

Currently, the Senior Tax Credit is granted to property owners who are at least 70 years old, use the property as their principal residence and live in a household with combined gross income not exceeding 500 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for a household of two, which is about \$80,000 for Fiscal Year 2017. The household must have a net worth that does not exceed \$500,000.

The proposed legislation would reduce eligibility to age 65, expanding the potential number of county property owners who could qualify based on age from 26,000 to more than 40,000.

The second piece of legislation would create the Aging-in-Place Tax Credit, providing a 20 percent tax credit on up to \$500,000 of assessed property value. This credit would be granted for up to five years.

-- more --

Executive Kittleman seeks expansion of Senior Tax Credit and creation of Aging-in-Place Tax Credit

(continued)

The Maryland General Assembly passed state-wide enabling legislation for this additional tax credit through House Bill 898 during the 2016 Legislative Session. Local legislation must be passed for this tax credit to be available in Howard County. Kittleman said he wants seniors and retired military in Howard County to have full advantage of these options.

House Bill 898 enables this tax credit for owners of occupied property who are 65 or older and have lived on their property for at least 40 years. This credit also is available to retired members of the armed forces of the United States, who are at least 65 years of age.

Kittleman has discussed this issue with Howard County State Senator Gail Bates and fully supports state legislation she plans to introduce to reduce the time homeowners must have lived on their properties from 40 years to 25. This change would expand the number of seniors eligible for this tax credit.

"This seems like a reasonable change, allowing many more seniors to take advantage of this," said Bates. "It's getting increasingly difficult for many older residents on fixed incomes to stay in Howard County. We have to do what we can to fix this problem."

"These changes will make a tremendous difference for many older residents, allowing them to stay in their homes," said Starr Sowers, Administrator of the Office on Aging and Independence. "Most seniors want to remain in the homes where they have lived for decades. But many are on fixed incomes and as their property taxes rise, they find they cannot afford it."

Kittleman, who created an Office of Veterans and Military Families within the Department of Community Resources and Services, strongly advocates improved property tax credits for retired military personnel living in Howard County.

"We're seeing more retired military, particularly from Ft. Meade and other area installations, choosing to stay in or relocate to Howard County," said Kittleman. "Just as with our seniors, we are committed to having support services and tax credits in place to allow these residents to stay in the County if that's their desire."

"It's encouraging to see the County Executive's commitment to our veterans and military families," said Lisa Terry, Administrator of the Office of Veterans and Military Families. "These initiatives make a real difference in their quality of life and make Howard County an attractive place for them to live."

Kittleman's tax credit bills will be prefiled with the County Council this Thursday. The Council will have a public hearing on the bills November 21 and vote on them on December 5.

###

Reply all | Delete Junk |

Fwd: Tax Credits for property owners over 65

CM Clay, Mary
Sun 10/30, 1:36 PM
CouncilMail

Reply all |

Begin forwarded message:

From: james rogers <jcrog4200@hotmail.com>
Date: October 29, 2016 at 8:20:26 PM EDT
To: "Clay, Mary" <mclay@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Tax Credits for property owners over 65

Hello Mary,

I would like to request that our Council support Mr Kittleman's plan to increase tax credits and lower eligibility to age 65. This will be a major help for retirees in Howard County. Our region, and entire state, is an expensive place to live. Please help us to be able to retire near our families in Howard County.

Thank you very much,

James and Mary Rogers

8747 Teresa Ln

Scaggsville

Reply all | Delete Junk |

Enabling Property Tax Credit - Elderly Individuals and Veterans" (HB898)

SK

Stu Kohn <stukohn@verizon.net>

Reply all |

Fri 10/28, 8:23 PM

Kittleman, Allan; Wilson, B Diane; CouncilMail; +9 more

HCCA - Property Tax Cr...

43 KB

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| Action Items

Dear County Executive and Council Members,

Please see the attachment which the Howard County Citizens Association (HCCA) is asking you to please consider to enable the Property Tax Credit Legislation.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn
HCCA, President

Cc: HCCA Board Members



HCCA

Howard County Citizens Association

Since 1961...

The Voice Of The People of Howard County

Date: October 27, 2016

Subject: Maryland Enacted House Bill 898, 2016 Legislative Session, "Property Tax Credit - Elderly Individuals and Veterans" (HB898)

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Jen Terresa, Howard County Council

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To reiterate, the suggestions were as follows:

1. Provide a 20% property tax credit for a period of 5 years for all residents that are 65 or older and have lived in the same dwelling for at least the last 40 years, and
2. Provide a 20% property tax credit for a period of 5 years for veterans that are 65 or older and have lived in the same dwelling for at least the last 10 years.

As you know, the cost of living is very high in Howard County and retirees typically experience a 50%+ cut in their income when they retire. This will aid retirees and veterans financially. Retirees who have paid Howard County property taxes for 40+ years have paid at an average minimum of approximately \$100,000 to \$200,000+ during this period.

If you desire, HCCA would assist you in developing this needed legislation.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn
HCCA, President

cc: County Council - Greg Fox, Jon Weinstein, Mary Kay Sigaty
County Executive Allan Kittleman



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony on Council Bill No. 75-2016; Establishing the Elderly Individuals and Veterans property tax credit

To: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Stanley Milesky,
Director of the Department of Finance

Date: October 26, 2016

During the 2016 session, the General Assembly enacted House Bill 898 authorizing the County to provide a tax credit for owner occupied property where an owner was 65 or older AND has lived in the property for 40 years OR is an owner 65 or older and a retired member of the Armed Forces of the United States.

State law provides that the credit cannot exceed 20%, although the County could choose to make the credit something less. State law also provides that the credit could be granted for up to 5 years. The legislation proposes to enact the credit authorized by the General Assembly in an amount not to exceed 20% for up to 5 years. A property owner is eligible for a credit of taxes on \$500,000 or the assessed value of the property after the Homestead Property Tax Credit is applied.

The legislation also provides that a property owner who is granted a credit under the County's Senior Property Tax Credit may not receive a credit under the proposed legislation during the same fiscal year.

The credit proposed by this legislation will apply to tax years beginning with Fiscal Year 2017.

Possible Financial Impact of New Credit

We have identified 139 owner occupied residential properties that have not had an arms-length transfer on them in that last 40 years. Even if we add no other restricting parameters, these might not all qualify if the non-arms-length transfer was from another family member to the current owner. Of those 139 properties 2 are already getting the current Senior Tax Credit which is 25% of County Tax rather than 20% and 15 are getting the State Homeowner's Credit which ranges from 48% to 122% of County Taxes in this case.

The potential revenue impact for a 20% credit for the remaining 122 properties would be about \$80K for those who qualify under the longevity parameter for the credit.

Estimating the number of homeowners who would qualify under the Veterans parameter for the credit is more difficult. Based on census data and households currently eligible for our Senior Tax Credit, we estimate that there are 3,609 households in the County that are owned by veterans aged 65 and older. House Bill 898 limits the credit to a retired member of the US armed forces. All veterans may not have served long enough to be considered "retired members" which is generally 20 years, although there have been periods of time where military could retire at 15 years. The question remains, what percentage of those household are owned by retired military.

Various scenarios are including in the table below:

% retired after 20 years of service	# of households	# eligible households	Average Asmt*	20% Credit	Annual Rev Loss
10%	3,609	361	322570	654.17	236,155.37
20%	3,609	722	322570	654.17	472,310.74
30%	3,609	1,083	322570	654.17	708,466.11
40%	3,609	1,444	322570	654.17	944,621.48
50%	3,609	1,805	322570	654.17	1,180,776.85

*Average Assessment was obtained from the current Senior Tax Credit Database.

Reply all | Delete Junk |

Council Bill CB 75-2016

FILE COPY

N no-reply@howardcountymd.gov
Yesterday, 3:34 PM
wlriddle@mac.com

Reply all |

First Name: Wanda
Last Name: Riddle
Email: wlriddle@mac.com
Street Address: 4742 Bates Drive
City: Ellicott City
Subject: Council Bill CB 75-2016

Message: I will be unable to testify in person on Monday, 21 November. I am voicing my SUPPORT in this email for CB 75-2016, Property tax credit for seniors and military retirees. I am a retired Naval Officer and a member of the Howard County Veterans and Military Families Commission. If passed, this tax credit will be one more way to show appreciation for the sacrifices of military members as well as, one more reason for an individual to retire within Howard County. Thank you.

Getting too much email from no-reply@howardcountymd.gov? You can unsubscribe