

# SENATE BILL 975

Q1, O3

2lr3148  
CF HB 809

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By: **Senator Jennings**

Introduced and read first time: February 15, 2022

Assigned to: Rules

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Property Tax Exemption – Disabled Veteran, Active Duty, and Surviving Spouse**  
3 **– Application Process**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing an individual to submit, and requiring the State  
5 Department of Assessments and Taxation to accept, an application for a certain  
6 property tax exemption before the individual purchases a dwelling house; requiring  
7 the Department, within a certain period of time, to process the application and notify  
8 the applicant of approval or denial of the application; and generally relating to a  
9 property tax exemption for a dwelling house owned by a disabled veteran, disabled  
10 active duty service member, or surviving spouse.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
12 Article – Tax – Property  
13 Section 7–208(b)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
17 Article – Tax – Property  
18 Section 7–208(d)  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – Tax – Property**

24 7–208.

25 (b) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, a dwelling house is exempt

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 from property tax if:

2 (1) the dwelling house is owned by:

3 (i) a disabled active duty service member;

4 (ii) a disabled veteran;

5 (iii) a surviving spouse of an individual who died in the line of duty,

6 if:

7 1. the dwelling house was owned by the individual at the  
8 time of the individual's death;

9 2. the dwelling house was acquired by the surviving spouse  
10 within 2 years of the individual's death, if the individual or the surviving spouse was  
11 domiciled in the State as of the date of the individual's death; or

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

15 (iv) a surviving spouse of a disabled veteran who meets the  
16 requirements of subsection (c) of this section; and

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

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

20 (i) a copy of the disabled veteran's discharge certificate from active  
21 military, naval, or air service; and

22 (ii) on the form provided by the Department, a certification of the  
23 disabled veteran's disability from the Veterans' Administration.

24 (2) The disabled veteran's certificate of disability may not be inspected by  
25 individuals other than:

26 (i) the disabled veteran; or

27 (ii) appropriate employees of the State, a county, or a municipal  
28 corporation.

29 (3) A disabled active duty service member shall apply for an exemption  
30 under this section by providing to the supervisor, on the form provided by the Department,  
31 a certification of the service member's disability from a physician licensed to practice

1 medicine in the State or from the Veterans' Administration.

2 (4) A surviving spouse of an individual who died in the line of duty shall  
3 apply for an exemption under this section by providing to the supervisor certification that  
4 the individual died while in active service as a result of an injury or disease incurred in the  
5 line of duty.

6 **(5) (I) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY SUBMIT, AND THE DEPARTMENT**  
7 **SHALL ACCEPT, AN APPLICATION FOR THE EXEMPTION UNDER THIS SECTION**  
8 **BEFORE THE INDIVIDUAL PURCHASES A DWELLING HOUSE.**

9 **(II) THE DEPARTMENT, WITHIN 15 BUSINESS DAYS FOLLOWING**  
10 **RECEIPT OF AN APPLICATION SUBMITTED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS**  
11 **PARAGRAPH, SHALL PROCESS THE APPLICATION AND NOTIFY THE APPLICANT OF**  
12 **THE APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF THE APPLICATION.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2022.