



**Bill 45-23, *Property Tax Credit - Individuals 65 and Above,
Retired Military Service Members, and Disabled Military Service Members*
Montgomery County Council
January 23, 2024
Support**

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC) supports Bill 45-23, *Property Tax Credit - Individuals 65 and Above, Retired Military Service Members, and Disabled Military Service Members*. Bill 45-23 amends the eligibility criteria for the property tax credit available to individuals 65 and above, and to retired or disabled military service members and their spouses to make it easier to age in place in Montgomery County.

MCCC supports incentives that seek to keep retirees here in Montgomery County, and in particular retired military veterans and disabled military service members. Supporting military and service disabled veterans has been a longtime MCCC priority, most notably through efforts of the Montgomery County Chamber Community Foundation's (MCCCF) Veterans Institute for Procurement (VIP) program.

The VIP program is the first free training program for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses and Maryland Veteran-Owned Small Businesses. Veteran-Owned company "C-level" executives receive 27 hours of comprehensive instruction on how to accelerate their federal government contracting business skills. Over three days, subject matter experts from industry and government provide best business practice strategies and instruction. Most of the executives who graduate from the VIP program are retired military veterans who reside in Maryland.

Maryland's incentives for military retirees are often not competitive with other jurisdictions. It is imperative that Montgomery County does more for military and disabled veterans by offering competitive incentives to remain here after retirement.

For these reasons, the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce supports Bill 45-23 and respectfully requests favorable consideration of the bill.

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of our members, advocates for growth in business opportunities, strategic investment in infrastructure, and balanced tax reform to advance Metro Maryland as a regional, national, and global location for business success. Established in 1959, MCCC is an independent non-profit membership organization and a proud Montgomery County Green Certified Business.

Brian Levine | Vice President of Government Affairs
Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce
51 Monroe Street | Suite 1800
Rockville, Maryland 20850
301-738-0015 | www.mcccmd.com