

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 8(35) (a) of Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Revenue and Taxes," sub-title "Ordinary Taxes. What Shall be Taxed and Where," as amended by Ch. 30 of the Acts of 1952, be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

8. (35).

(a) The dwelling house and the lot or curtilage whereon the same is erected, of any citizen and resident of this State, now or hereafter honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service, in time of war, in any branch of the armed forces, who has been or shall be declared by the United States Veterans Administration or its successors to have a service-connected disability from *total blindness, or from paraplegia* or permanent paralysis of both legs and lower parts of the body resulting from traumatic injury to the spinal cord or brain, or from the amputation of both arms or both legs, or by reason of amputation, ankylosis, progressive muscular dystrophies or paralysis of both lower extremities, such as to preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes or wheel chair. The dwelling house and the lot or curtilage whereon the same is erected of any blind person shall also be exempt from taxation, up to an assessed valuation of \$6,000. in any instance; and for the purpose of this sub-section a person shall be considered blind if he has a permanent impairment of both eyes of the following status: central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye, with corrective glasses, or central visual acuity of more than 20/200 if there is a field defect in which the peripheral field has contracted to such an extent that the widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than twenty degrees in the better eye. Such exemption shall be in addition to any other exemption of such person's real and personal property which now is or hereafter shall be prescribed or allowed by the Constitution or by law, but no taxpayer shall be allowed more than one exemption under this sub-section.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1953.

Approved February 25, 1953.