

# SENATE BILL 276

R4, P1

2lr1133  
CF 2lr1809

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By: **Senators Mathias, Colburn, Currie, DeGrange, Edwards, Garagiola,  
Jennings, Middleton, Peters, and Robey**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2012

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Drivers' Licenses and Identification Cards – Notation of Veteran Status**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Veterans Affairs, on request, to  
4 provide a veteran with a document certifying veteran status; requiring the  
5 Motor Vehicle Administration to ensure that the driver's license or  
6 identification card of an applicant who presents a certain certification of veteran  
7 status includes a notation indicating that the applicant is a veteran; requiring  
8 an application for a driver's license or an identification card to allow an  
9 applicant to indicate that the applicant is a veteran and consents to being  
10 contacted by the Department for certain purposes; requiring the Administration  
11 to electronically transmit certain information to the Department; authorizing  
12 the Administration to adopt regulations to carry out certain provisions of this  
13 Act; and generally relating to drivers' licenses and identification cards of  
14 veterans.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
16 Article – State Government  
17 Section 9–901(a), (b), and (d)  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
21 Article – State Government  
22 Section 9–905  
23 Annotated Code of Maryland  
24 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

25 BY adding to  
26 Article – Transportation  
27 Section 12–302

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Annotated Code of Maryland  
2 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

5 **Article – State Government**

6 9–901.

7 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

8 (b) “Department” means the Department of Veterans Affairs.

9 (d) Except as otherwise provided in §§ 9–906 and 9–907 of this subtitle,  
10 “veteran” means an individual who served on active duty in the armed forces of the  
11 United States, other than for training, and was discharged or released under  
12 conditions other than dishonorable.

13 9–905.

14 The Department shall:

15 (1) help veterans and their dependents to receive promptly and  
16 regularly all of the benefits to which veterans or dependents are entitled under federal  
17 law; [and]

18 (2) help veterans and their dependents in:

19 (i) preparing, in proper form, claims for benefits;

20 (ii) presenting the claims to the appropriate governmental unit;

21 (iii) trying to prevent and to relieve congestion in the processing  
22 of the claims; and

23 (iv) obtaining and expediting action on the claims; AND

24 **(3) ON REQUEST, PROVIDE A VETERAN WITH A DOCUMENT**  
25 **CERTIFYING VETERAN STATUS.**

26 **Article – Transportation**

27 **12–302.**

1           **(A) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ENSURE THAT THE DRIVER'S LICENSE**  
2 **OR IDENTIFICATION CARD OF AN APPLICANT WHO PRESENTS A CERTIFICATION**  
3 **OF VETERAN STATUS OBTAINED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**  
4 **AFFAIRS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 9-905 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE**  
5 **INCLUDES A NOTATION INDICATING THAT THE APPLICANT IS A VETERAN.**

6           **(B) (1) AN APPLICATION FOR A DRIVER'S LICENSE OR AN**  
7 **IDENTIFICATION CARD SHALL ALLOW AN APPLICANT TO INDICATE THAT THE**  
8 **APPLICANT IS A VETERAN AND CONSENTS TO BEING CONTACTED BY THE**  
9 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS REGARDING THE APPLICANT'S**  
10 **ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE OR FEDERAL VETERANS' BENEFITS.**

11           **(2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ELECTRONICALLY TRANSMIT**  
12 **TO THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATE INFORMATION**  
13 **ABOUT EACH APPLICANT WHO CONSENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH**  
14 **(1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

15           **(C) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT**  
16 **THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.**

17           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2012.