

# HOUSE BILL 359

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By: **Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Military)**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2013

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Militia – Maryland Defense Force – Enlistment Period**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the enlistment period for the Maryland Defense Force to a  
4 period determined by the commanding officer based on the specialty of the  
5 recruit and the needs of the militia; and generally relating to the Maryland  
6 Defense Force.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Public Safety  
9 Section 13–504  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Public Safety**

15 13–504.

16 (a) An officer or warrant officer commissioned or appointed in the Maryland  
17 Defense Force shall take the oath prescribed in § 13–509 of this subtitle.

18 (b) An individual who enlists in the Maryland Defense Force shall take an  
19 oath substantially in the form required for enlisted personnel of the National Guard,  
20 substituting “Maryland Defense Force” where necessary in the oath.

21 (c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the  
22 enlistment period in the Maryland Defense Force is [2 years] **DETERMINED BY THE**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **COMMANDING OFFICER BASED ON THE SPECIALTY OF THE RECRUIT AND THE**  
2 **NEEDS OF THE MILITIA** and may be renewed.

3 (2) In the case that a state of war exists between the United States  
4 and any other nation, or that there is a federal or State declaration of emergency  
5 presently in force in the State, all enlistments shall continue until 3 months after said  
6 state of war or emergency ends, unless the enlisted individual is discharged sooner by  
7 proper authority.

8 (d) The Governor may accept the resignation of an officer or grant a  
9 discharge to an enlisted individual at any time.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
11 October 1, 2013.