

# SENATE BILL 89

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5lR0642

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Senators Simonaire and Jackson**

Requested: June 16, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 2, 2025

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of the Environment – Notation of Veteran Status and Eligibility for**  
3 **Benefits**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of the Environment to establish a certain  
5 process in collaboration with one or more boards under the Department’s direction  
6 and control that requires a board to include a notation indicating veteran status on  
7 a professional license or certificate ~~and to assist in determining eligibility for State~~  
8 ~~and federal veterans benefits~~; and generally relating to veterans and professional  
9 licenses and certificates issued by the Department of the Environment.

10 BY adding to  
11 Article – Environment  
12 Section 1–206  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Environment**

18 **1–206.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (A) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ESTABLISH A PROCESS IN COLLABORATION  
2 WITH ONE OR MORE BOARDS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT'S DIRECTION AND CONTROL  
3 THAT REQUIRES A BOARD TO INCLUDE A NOTATION INDICATING VETERAN STATUS  
4 ON A PROFESSIONAL LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE ~~AND TO ASSIST IN DETERMINING~~  
5 ~~ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE AND FEDERAL VETERANS BENEFITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH~~  
6 ~~THIS SECTION.~~

7 (B) IF THE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHES THE PROCESS DESCRIBED IN  
8 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICATION FOR A PROFESSIONAL LICENSE  
9 OR CERTIFICATE SHALL ALLOW AN APPLICANT TO:

10 (1) PRESENT A CERTIFICATION OF VETERAN STATUS OBTAINED  
11 FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES IN ACCORDANCE  
12 WITH § 9-905 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, A DD FORM 214, OR OTHER  
13 DOCUMENTATION ACCEPTABLE TO THE BOARD CERTIFYING VETERAN STATUS; AND

14 (2) INDICATE THAT THE APPLICANT CONSENTS TO:

15 (i) HAVING A NOTATION ON THE APPLICANT'S PROFESSIONAL  
16 LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE INDICATING THAT THE APPLICANT IS A VETERAN; AND

17 (ii) BEING CONTACTED BY APPROPRIATE EXECUTIVE BRANCH  
18 AGENCIES REGARDING THE APPLICANT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE OR FEDERAL  
19 VETERANS BENEFITS.

20 (C) IF AN APPLICANT PRESENTS THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION AND  
21 CONSENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A BOARD  
22 SHALL:

23 (1) INCLUDE ON THE APPLICANT'S PROFESSIONAL LICENSE OR  
24 CERTIFICATE A NOTATION INDICATING THAT THE APPLICANT IS A VETERAN; AND

25 (2) IN ACCORDANCE WITH §§ 4-304 THROUGH 4-325 OF THE  
26 GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE LAW, AND ON  
27 REQUEST FROM AN EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCY, ELECTRONICALLY TRANSMIT TO  
28 THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCY APPROPRIATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE  
29 APPLICANT ~~RELEVANT TO DETERMINING THE APPLICANT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE~~  
30 ~~OR FEDERAL VETERANS BENEFITS.~~

31 (D) THE DEPARTMENT AND APPLICABLE BOARDS MAY ADOPT  
32 REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
34 October 1, 2025.