THE AMERICAN LEGION Department of Maryland Legislative Committee

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ENDORSEMENT IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 90 MARYLAND VETERANS SERVICE ANIMAL PROGRAM – DEFINITIONS

Senators Pinsky and Kagan and distinguished members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee, The American Legion representing over 4,500 members supports the tenets of SB 90. "Service or Support Dogs" is a truly meaningful method to assist veterans with disabilities return to a fully healthful life

Additionally, I have personally witnessed the breathtaking benefits not only wounded warriors but the disabled community in general have derived from the "therapy horse" riding at the Maryland Therapeutic Academy in nearby Crownsville.

These classifications or definitions needed be cemented in governmental language so the achievements can continue to thrive.

The American Legion hopes you will render a favorable report on Senate Bill 90 to enable the great works done by these animals and their trainers can continue to flourish.

Respectfully, yours

Patrick Guibao

Patrick J. Guibao Chair THE AMERICAN LEGION Department of Maryland Legislative Commission