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February 25, 2020

Honorable Anne R. Kaiser, Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
Room 130 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: House Bill 922 - Income Tax - Subtraction Modification for Vietnam Veterans

Dear Chairman Kaiser and Members of the Ways & Means Committee,

On behalf of the Army Alliance, we are pleased to support House Bill 922.

The Army Alliance is a nonprofit advocacy organization whose mission is to provide support for one of our major military installations in the State – Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG). From its founding in 1917, APG has grown into a premier research facility for the United States Army. One of 12 such military installations in our state, APG is also the largest employer in Northeastern Maryland.

The Ways & Means Committee is familiar with Army Alliance support for Maryland legislation that reduces the personal income tax burden of military retirees, especially those with security clearances. Because of its central role as one of the Army’s research facilities, APG has an ongoing, critical need for qualified employees through its workforce. Our State tax policy has a direct effect on the decision-making process of military retirees to locate in a particular state, and it is in our interest to encourage them to do so.

House Bill 922 provides such an encouragement. While it is not as far-reaching as other legislation before the Committee, it recognizes a particular group of veterans, many of whom are also employed (or potentially employees of) the defense industry in Maryland. It is for this reason that we are pleased to support House Bill 922, and we respectfully request a favorable report on this bill.

Very truly yours,

Thomas G. Albro
President, Army Alliance

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