JULIE PALAKOVICH CARR Legislative District 17 Montgomery County

Ways and Means Committee



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## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

## Testimony in Support of HB 237 State Government – Maryland Veterans Commission – Membership

This legislation would add a designated seat on the Maryland Veterans Commission for a member of the Reserve Organization of America.

The Veterans Commission works to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on issues facing veterans. There are currently 29 members on the commission, each of whom represents a different group of veterans and their varied experiences.

Currently, there are no organizational commission members who solely represent members of the Reserve and National Guard.

Established in 1922, the Reserve Organization of America is focused on advocating for members of the Reserve and National Guard, no matter their rank or service. The organization has a long history of advocating for members of the Reserve and should therefore be given the opportunity to further their efforts in the Maryland Veterans Commission.