



190 W. Ostend St., #101  
Baltimore, MD 21230  
Phone: 410-547-1515  
Email: [info@afscmemd.org](mailto:info@afscmemd.org)

Patrick Moran – President

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**HB 140 - State Personnel - Spouses of Active Duty Service Members - Hiring Preferences  
Appropriations Committee  
January 30, 2024**

**FAVORABLE**

AFSCME Council 3 supports HB 140. This legislation allows the spouses of active-duty service members in Maryland to receive a hiring preference credit on the selection test in the State Personnel Management System. Hiring preference credits alone do not give the candidate the job. They must meet requirements for the positions and perform well on other parts of the selection process. But they are intended to break a tie when two equally qualified and scored candidates are competing for a position. We grant preference credits in law already for the spouses of veterans who have service-connected disabilities, and the surviving spouses of a deceased eligible veteran, we see no conflict with extending the same credit to active-duty spouses.

We request a favorable recommendation on HB 140.