



**Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of the Secretary**

**WES MOORE
GOVERNOR**

**ARUNA MILLER
LT. GOVERNOR**

**ANTHONY C. WOODS
SECRETARY**

February 22, 2024

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.
Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 584 - Motor Vehicles - Parking - Armed Forces Special Registration Plates
Position: Favorable with Amendments

Dear Chairman Smith and Committee Members,

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (“MDVA”) supports Senate Bill 584 - Motor Vehicles - Parking - Armed Forces Special Registration Plates.

As amended, this bill would waive side street parking fees for recipients of combat-related medals and Gold Star and next of kin families who have these special designation license plates. When veterans and families display these plates, it improves understanding of their experience and serves as a reminder to the larger community of their sacrifice.

The MDVA believes it is important for the State to recognize and honor the bravery and sacrifice of these individuals who have given so much in service to our country. This bill represents a small but meaningful way that the State can show its appreciation.

I respectfully ask the Committee for a favorable report with amendments on SB 584.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony Woods". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Anthony C. Woods
Secretary