



M a r y l a n d Troopers Association



INCORPORATED 1979

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT, WITH AMENDMENTS, OF HOUSE BILL 789:

Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System- Military Service Credit Eligibility

TO: Chair Barnes & Members of the House Appropriations Committee

FROM: The Maryland Trooper's Association

DATE: March 18th, 2026

The Maryland Troopers Association (MTA) represents men and women whose lives are defined by a singular commitment to public safety. For many MTA members, that commitment began in the United States Armed Forces.

The MTA supports House Bill 789 with amendments, which changes how military service credit works for members of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System (LEOPS). HB 789 allows LEOPS members to receive up to 5 years of military service credit even if they already receive credit for that same service from another retirement system, such as a military pension.

Under current law, this "double credit" is mostly prohibited, and this bill creates a needed exception. Many of MTA's active members come from a military background or carry a military pension.

Our amendment would simply add "(IV) A member or former member of the State Police Retirement System." House Bill 789 is more than a technical adjustment to the pension code; it is a validation of the continuum of service. We urge this committee to recognize the unique value our veterans bring to the Department and to the people of Maryland.

In an era where law enforcement recruiting is a challenge, Maryland must remain a competitive destination for retiring military personnel.

The Maryland Troopers Association strongly supports House Bill 789 and respectfully urges a Favorable Report with our amendment.

Mike Sekscinski
President, Maryland Troopers Association

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