



**MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION**  
*Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy*

February 27, 2026

The Honorable Ben Barns  
Chair, Appropriations Committee  
120 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: **Request for FAVORABLE Report** – HB0721 – Uniformed Services Spouses Act

Dear Chair Barns and distinguished members of the Appropriations Committee,

On behalf of the members of the Maryland Military Coalition<sup>1</sup> (MMC) I write to request a **FAVORABLE report** by the Committee on **HB0721 Uniformed Services Spouses Act**, sponsored by Delegate Edith Patterson. This bill is a continuation of the centralization and modernization of Maryland's Code with respect to military terms, synchronizing it with the federal code.

The MMC supports this bill as it enables priority registration at institutions of higher education, Public Service Commission, and private employers. **HB0721** also corrects outdated language in Articles – Education Section §15–124, §16–109, §18–405(d)(3), §18–406(g), and §18–501(b)(2)(iii), and §18–401 and §18–501(a); Labor and Employment Section §3–714(a) and (b); Public Utilities Section §18–111(a) and (b); and, State Personnel and Pensions Section §7–207(c)(1)(i), (2), and (3) and §7–207(c)(1)(iii).

The Maryland Military Coalition **strongly supports HB0721** and requests for a **FAVORABLE** report from the Appropriations Committee.

The Maryland Military Coalition is a registered non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization comprised of 21 prominent Maryland-based veteran and military groups. It represents over 150,000 service-connected individuals, including those currently serving, veterans, retirees and their families, caregivers and survivors. For further information, visit our website at <https://mdmilcoalition.org/>

We want to thank Delegate Patterson for sponsoring this legislation and supporting the Maryland uniformed services community.

Respectfully,

*David Lutzow*

David Lutzow

Senior Master Sergeant (Ret), U.S. Air Force

Director

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<sup>1</sup> See attached list of member organizations



## **Member Organizations of the Maryland Military Coalition**

Air Force Sergeants Association

American Military Society

American Minority Veterans Research Project

Association of the United States Navy

Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service

Disabled American Veterans

Fleet Reserve Association of Annapolis

Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A

Maryland Air National Guard Retirees' Association

National Active and Retired Federal Employees, Maryland Veterans

Maryland Veterans Chamber of Commerce

Military Officers Association of America

Military Order of the Purple Heart

Military Order of the World Wars

Montford Point Marines of America

National Association of Black Veterans

National Active and Retired Federal Employees, Maryland Veterans

Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers

Reserve Organization of America

Society of Military Widows

Veterans of Foreign Wars