

VeteransCaucusLegislationSupportLetter_SB194.pdf

Uploaded by: Benjamin Brooks

Position: FAV



MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
VETERANS CAUCUS

January 19, 2026

Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3W Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB194, Income & Property Tax Incentives- Members & Veterans of the Space Force-
Application
Hearing Date: February 21, 2026

Dear Chairman Guzzone,

Please let this letter serve as notice of the support of the Maryland General Assembly Veterans
Caucus for Senate Bill 194.

After review by our respective legislative committee, the Veterans Caucus believes that the
above-mentioned legislation would provide a valuable benefit to the veterans of the State of
Maryland and requests a favorable report.

With kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benjamin T. Brooks".

Senator Benjamin Brooks
Senate Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Rogers".

Delegate Mike Rogers
House Chair

Maryland Military Coalition SB0194 Written Testimo

Uploaded by: David Lutzow

Position: FAV



MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy

January 19, 2026

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: **Request FAVORABLE Report** – SB0194 – Income and Property Tax Incentives – Members and Veterans of the Space Force – Application

Dear Chair Guzzone and distinguished members of the Budget and Taxation Committee,

On behalf of the members of the Maryland Military Coalition (MMC) and as its Legislative Director, I write to recommend a **FAVORABLE report** by the Committee on **SB0194, Income and Property Tax Incentives – Members and Veterans of the Space Force – Application**, sponsored by Senator Bryan Simonaire. 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 related to the armed forces by including the Space Force.

The MMC supports this bill as it updates three Articles of the Maryland Code by including members and veterans of the Space Force. The Space Force was created in 2019. It was established to organize, train and equip space forces to protect U.S. and allied interests in space, taking over the functions of the former U.S. Air Force Space Command. This bill will provide these individuals with the same privileges already in the Code for members and veterans of the other branches of the armed forces.

The Maryland Military Coalition **supports SB0194** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report from the Budget and Taxation Committee.

The Maryland Military Coalition is a registered non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization comprised of prominent Maryland-based veteran and military groups, representing over 150,000 service-connected individuals, including those currently serving, veterans, retirees and their families, caregivers, and survivors.

We want to thank Senator Simonaire for sponsoring this legislation and his strong commitment to the uniformed services community in Maryland.

Respectfully,

David L. Dragics
COL USA (Ret)
Legislative Director

SB 194 Senator Simonaire_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Kara Contino

Position: FAV

BRYAN W. SIMONAIRE
Legislative District 31
Anne Arundel County

Education, Energy, and the
Environment Committee

Joint Committee on the Chesapeake and
Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area



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The Senate of Maryland
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

SB 194 – Space Force Revisions

I am Senator Bryan Simonaire presenting SB 194.

At the end of 2019, Space Force was created as part of the Armed Forces, and in the subsequent years, members of the General Assembly have updated our laws accordingly when referencing our ‘*Armed Forces*’ through various bills.

However, there are more changes needed to include Space Force properly, and this bill addresses those remaining issues.

This consensus legislation does two main things:

- 1) Updates the Maryland term “*Active service of the military, naval, or air service*” that is used many places in Maryland laws to match the Federal US Code terms used in 38 USC 101 by adding ‘*Space service*’ to the Maryland term, and
- 2) Centralizes the new term “*Active service of the military, naval, air or space service*” in State Govt 9-901, removes all local terms and replaces them with a reference to the term in State Govt Article as we did throughout our laws last year in the *Maryland Military Modernization Act*.

That is the bill in a nutshell. It simply lines up Maryland terms with the revised Federal terms which now include *Space Force*.

For all these reasons, I ask for your favorable consideration.

DVMF SB0194 LOS Property Tax + Space Force.pdf

Uploaded by: Morgan Murphy

Position: FAV



**Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families
Office of the Secretary**

WES MOORE
GOVERNOR

ARUNA MILLER
LT. GOVERNOR

ED ROTHSTEIN
ACTING SECRETARY

**Senate Bill 194 - Income and Property Tax Incentives -
Members and Veterans of the Space Force - Application
SUPPORT**

January 21, 2026

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and members of the Budget and Taxations Committee,

The Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families (DVMF) is committed to leading veterans and their families through life's transitions, making Maryland the best state for the military-connected communities. In keeping with that commitment, DVMF supports Senate Bill 194, adding the Space Force to the definition of active military branches. This change aligns Maryland law with the federal definition of active duty branches.

Maryland is home to a significant military-connected population, including active-duty service members, veterans, and their families. DVMF believes it is important to recognize and honor the service of all service members and veterans. Adding members of the Space Force to the eligibility for income and property tax incentives shows them that their sacrifices are not forgotten by their community.

Thank you, Chair Guzzone for your attention to this important proposal, and I respectfully ask the Committee for a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward C. Rothstein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "E" and "R".

Ed Rothstein
Acting Secretary