



MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy

February 17, 2026

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: Request for **FAVORABLE Report** – SB0418 – Professional Licensing Portability –
Members of the Foreign Service and Spouses

Dear Chair Feldman and distinguished members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

On behalf of the members of the Maryland Military Coalition¹ (MMC), I write to request a **FAVORABLE report** by the Committee on **SB0418 – Professional Licensing Portability – Members of the Foreign Service and Spouses**, sponsored by Senator Bryan Simonaire. This bill adds a new section to Article – State Government and amends the same Article plus 15 others in the Maryland Code (“the Code”), providing license portability to members of the Foreign Service and their spouses who relocate to Maryland because of an assignment or detail.

By adding Subtitle 14A. Licensing – Members of the Foreign Service and Spouses to Article – State Government, this bill provides for the recognition of professional licenses and certificates issued by other jurisdictions to members or spouses of the Foreign Service who have relocated to Maryland on assignment or detail, providing the licensee remains in good standing with the issuing authority, remains in good standing in all jurisdictions in which they hold or have held a license of similar scope and in the same discipline, have used the license during the two years immediately prior to relocating to Maryland, and meet the standards of practice for the relevant profession. In addition, if the licensee is able to practice in multiple jurisdictions through an interstate compact, the provisions of that compact apply.

SB0418 is a proactive step that will benefit members and spouses of the Foreign Service. These individuals are nonpartisan, professional diplomats and specialists representing American interests around the world. Enacting this bill will make it easier to transfer their license when they relocate to Maryland. In the case of the spouse, it will help in obtaining employment more quickly upon relocation.

¹ See attached list of member organizations.

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The Maryland Military Coalition **strongly supports SB0418** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report from the Education, Energy, and the Environment 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 Senator Simonaire for sponsoring this legislation and supporting the members of the Foreign Service community in Maryland.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David L. Dragics". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'D' and 'D'.

David L. Dragics
COL (Ret), U.S. Army
Legislative Director



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