



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

**WES MOORE**  
*GOVERNOR*

**ARUNA MILLER**  
*LT. GOVERNOR*

**ED ROTHSTEIN**  
*ACTING SECRETARY*

**Senate Bill 7 - Higher Education - Douglas J. J. Peters Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts  
Scholarship - Repeal of Termination Date  
SUPPORT**

January 28, 2026

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

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Committee Members,

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 military-connected communities. Our department supports Senate Bill 7 - Higher Education - Douglas J. J. Peters Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship - Repeal of Termination Date.

The Douglas J.J. Peters Veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship (VAIC) is designed to provide financial assistance to United States armed forces personnel who served in the Afghanistan or Iraq Conflicts, and their son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, or spouse attending a Maryland postsecondary institution. Senate Bill 7 simply repeals the scholarship termination date, which DVMF wholeheartedly supports. This bill has no fiscal impact.

DVMF hopes this vital scholarship will continue to provide financial support, stability, and continuity for Maryland's military families for years to come.

Thank you for your time, 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, flowing style.

Ed Rothstein  
Acting Secretary