

January 26, 2026

Testimony in Support of HB0139

Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee,

As someone who proudly serves in the Maryland Army National Guard, and who's worked closely with community organizations that support veterans, I would like to express my support for HB0139. I understand firsthand the sacrifices that come with wearing the uniform. Serving our country means long hours, time away from family, and, for many, the physical and emotional toll that lasts beyond active duty. That's why I strongly support a Veterans Tax-Free Day—it's a simple yet meaningful way to give back to those who have given so much.

Many veterans face financial struggles after service, whether it's medical expenses, transitioning to civilian life, or just making ends meet. A tax-free day would help alleviate some of these burdens, allowing them to keep more of their hard-earned money. It helps veterans manage everyday expenses—from groceries to clothing—during times when the cost of living is high. This extra saving can contribute to greater financial stability, especially during the challenging transition from military to civilian life. More than that, it's a gesture of appreciation—a way for our country to say, "We see you, we value you, and we thank you." A great impact on morale.

I know from personal experience that service members don't join for the rewards; we do it out of duty, love for our country, and the desire to protect those we care about. But when that service is acknowledged, even in small ways like a tax-free day, it reminds veterans that their sacrifices are not forgotten. This is not just about financial relief—it's about showing respect and gratitude through action. That's why I wholeheartedly stand behind this initiative and request a favorable report on HB0139.

Sincerely,

Brianna Mincy