

# HOUSE BILL 1424

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By: **Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Military)**

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: March 7, 2007

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Military Department Center for Military History**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Maryland Military Department Center for Military  
4 History; establishing the Maryland Museum of Military History and the  
5 Maryland Military Historical Research Center as components of the Center for  
6 Military History; providing for the staffing and duties of the Center for Military  
7 History and its components; authorizing the Center for Military History to  
8 assume title to certain abandoned property in a certain manner; and generally  
9 relating to the establishment of a Maryland Military Department Center for  
10 Military History.

11 BY adding to  
12 Article – Public Safety  
13 Section 13–219  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2003 Volume and 2006 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Public Safety**

19 **13–219.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(A) THERE IS A MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR**  
2 **MILITARY HISTORY.**

3           **(B) THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR MILITARY**  
4 **HISTORY CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COMPONENTS:**

5                   **(1) THE MARYLAND MUSEUM OF MILITARY HISTORY; AND**

6                   **(2) THE MARYLAND MILITARY HISTORICAL RESEARCH CENTER.**

7           **(C) THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR MILITARY**  
8 **HISTORY SHALL BE A COMPONENT OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY**  
9 **DEPARTMENT, AND THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF MARYLAND SHALL**  
10 **DESIGNATE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY**  
11 **DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR MILITARY HISTORY.**

12           **(D) THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE**  
13 **STAFFING AS DETERMINED AVAILABLE BY THE ADJUTANT GENERAL TO THE**  
14 **MARYLAND MUSEUM OF MILITARY HISTORY AND THE MARYLAND MILITARY**  
15 **HISTORICAL RESEARCH CENTER TO INCLUDE A DIRECTOR FOR EACH.**

16           **(E) THE MARYLAND MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC., A**  
17 **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION, SHALL:**

18                   **(1) SERVE AS AN ADVISORY BODY TO THE MARYLAND MILITARY**  
19 **DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR MILITARY HISTORY, BUT MAY NOT ENGAGE IN**  
20 **DIRECT OVERSIGHT OF EMPLOYEES OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY**  
21 **DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR MILITARY HISTORY OR ITS DAY-TO-DAY**  
22 **OPERATIONS;**

23                   **(2) BE AUTHORIZED TO ENGAGE IN FUND-RAISING ON BEHALF OF**  
24 **THE CENTER FOR MILITARY HISTORY;**

25                   **(3) BE AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE VOLUNTEERS TO SUPPORT**  
26 **ACTIVITIES OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR**  
27 **MILITARY HISTORY WITHOUT PAY OR COMPENSATION, EXCEPT THAT THE**  
28 **VOLUNTEERS SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS UNDER WORKERS'**  
29 **COMPENSATION FOR INJURIES SUFFERED IN THE COURSE OF VOLUNTEER**

1 WORK FOR THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR MILITARY  
2 HISTORY AS IF THEY WERE PAID EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE; AND

3 (4) BE AUTHORIZED TO USE OFFICE SPACE WITHIN FACILITIES OF  
4 THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT, INDEPENDENT OF THE SPACE  
5 ALLOTTED TO THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR  
6 MILITARY HISTORY ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE  
7 ADJUTANT GENERAL.

8 (F) THE MARYLAND MUSEUM OF MILITARY HISTORY SHALL:

9 (1) COLLECT, PRESERVE, INTERPRET, AND PRESENT  
10 SIGNIFICANT ARTIFACTS AND ARTWORK RELATING TO THE HISTORY OF THE  
11 PEOPLE, PLACES, AND EVENTS THAT REPRESENT ALL COMPONENTS AND  
12 BRANCHES OF EACH SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY AND THE  
13 MILITARY HERITAGE OF THE STATE; AND

14 (2) CONVEY AN AWARENESS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE OF  
15 MARYLANDERS AND HOW THAT SERVICE HAS HELPED PRESERVE AMERICAN  
16 FREEDOMS THROUGH EXHIBITS, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, AND OUTREACH.

17 (G) THE MARYLAND MILITARY HISTORICAL RESEARCH CENTER  
18 SHALL:

19 (1) COLLECT, INTERPRET, PRESERVE, AND PRESENT  
20 DOCUMENTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, ELECTRONIC MEDIA, AND OTHER MATERIALS  
21 CONTAINING INFORMATION OR IMAGERY RELATING TO THE HISTORY OF THE  
22 PEOPLE, PLACES, AND EVENTS THAT REPRESENT ALL COMPONENTS AND  
23 BRANCHES OF EACH SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY AND THE  
24 MILITARY HERITAGE OF THE STATE;

25 (2) EDUCATE THE PUBLIC REGARDING THE MILITARY HISTORY OF  
26 THE STATE BY PROVIDING BONA FIDE RESEARCHERS WITH ACCESS TO  
27 COLLECTED MATERIALS AND BY PROVIDING HISTORICAL IMAGERY TO SUPPORT  
28 DISPLAYS BY THE MARYLAND MUSEUM OF MILITARY HISTORY; AND

29 (3) ADVISE THE ADJUTANT GENERAL AND THE MARYLAND  
30 MILITARY DEPARTMENT GENERALLY ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE

1 **HERALDRY, HONORS, LINEAGE, AND HISTORY OF UNITS OF THE ORGANIZED**  
2 **MILITIA OF THE STATE.**

3 **(H) (1) THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR**  
4 **MILITARY HISTORY MAY ASSUME TITLE TO ABANDONED PROPERTY IN ITS**  
5 **POSSESSION.**

6 **(2) PROPERTY SHALL BE CONSIDERED ABANDONED IF:**

7 **(I) IT HAS BEEN IN THE POSSESSION OF THE MARYLAND**  
8 **MILITARY DEPARTMENT CENTER FOR MILITARY HISTORY FOR 7 YEARS OR**  
9 **MORE;**

10 **(II) THERE ARE NO KNOWN OWNERS, OR A REASONABLE**  
11 **ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO CONTACT THE OWNER WITHOUT SUCCESS, OR THE**  
12 **OWNER HAS BEEN CONTACTED BUT HAS REFUSED TO TAKE POSSESSION OF THE**  
13 **PROPERTY;**

14 **(III) THERE ARE NO KNOWN AGREEMENTS TO DONATE OR**  
15 **LEND THE PROPERTY, OR THERE IS A KNOWN AGREEMENT TO LEND THE**  
16 **PROPERTY FOR A FINITE PERIOD BUT THE PERIOD OF THE LOAN HAS BEEN**  
17 **EXCEEDED BY 7 OR MORE YEARS, OR THERE IS AN AGREEMENT TO LEND THE**  
18 **PROPERTY FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD BUT THE LENDER HAS BEEN DECEASED**  
19 **FOR 7 OR MORE YEARS, OR THE PROPERTY WAS LENT BY AN ORGANIZATION**  
20 **THAT HAS BEEN DEFUNCT FOR 7 OR MORE YEARS; AND**

21 **(IV) A NOTICE IS POSTED IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS FOR AT**  
22 **LEAST 2 WEEKS STATING THE INTENT TO TAKE TITLE TO THE PROPERTY IF IT IS**  
23 **NOT CLAIMED AND THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY DOES NOT CONTACT THE**  
24 **MARYLAND MUSEUM OF MILITARY HISTORY WITHIN 1 WEEK OF THE FINAL**  
25 **PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE.**

26 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**  
27 **October 1, 2007.**