

SENATE BILL 1118

E4, J1

8lr3651

By: **Senator Hough**

Introduced and read first time: February 15, 2018

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Trauma–Affected Veterans Training Program – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of State
4 Police, and the State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board jointly and in
5 consultation with veterans to establish a Trauma–Affected Veterans Training
6 Program to provide training to emergency responders and law enforcement officers
7 regarding the effects of certain injuries, techniques that can be used when
8 interacting with certain veterans, and any other relevant issues relating to certain
9 veterans; prohibiting training provided under the Program from being conducted
10 through an online course; defining certain terms; and generally relating to a
11 Trauma–Affected Veterans Training Program.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Public Safety

14 Section 1–601 and 1–602 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 6. Trauma–Affected
15 Veterans Training Program”

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Public Safety**

21 **SUBTITLE 6. TRAUMA–AFFECTED VETERANS TRAINING PROGRAM.**

22 **1–601.**

23 **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
24 **INDICATED.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (B) "EMERGENCY RESPONDER" INCLUDES:

2 (1) A FIREFIGHTER;

3 (2) AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDER, AS DEFINED IN §
4 13-516 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE; AND

5 (3) A RESCUE SQUAD MEMBER.

6 (C) "LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 3-101
7 OF THIS ARTICLE.

8 (D) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE TRAUMA-AFFECTED VETERANS TRAINING
9 PROGRAM.

10 (E) "STATE TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY ADVISORY BOARD" MEANS THE
11 STATE TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY ADVISORY BOARD ESTABLISHED UNDER §
12 13-2102 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

13 1-602.

14 (A) IN CONSULTATION WITH VETERANS, THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
15 AFFAIRS, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE, AND THE STATE TRAUMATIC BRAIN
16 INJURY ADVISORY BOARD JOINTLY SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A
17 TRAUMA-AFFECTED VETERANS TRAINING PROGRAM TO PROVIDE TRAINING TO
18 EMERGENCY RESPONDERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS REGARDING:

19 (1) THE EFFECTS OF ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURIES AND TRAUMATIC
20 BRAIN INJURIES;

21 (2) TECHNIQUES THAT CAN BE USED WHEN INTERACTING WITH
22 VETERANS WHO HAVE AN ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY OR A TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY;
23 AND

24 (3) ANY OTHER RELEVANT ISSUES RELATING TO VETERANS WITH
25 COMBAT-RELATED TRAUMA, POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS, AND POST-TRAUMATIC
26 STRESS DISORDER.

27 (B) TRAINING PROVIDED UNDER THE PROGRAM MAY NOT BE CONDUCTED
28 THROUGH AN ONLINE COURSE.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
30 October 1, 2018.

