

SENATE BILL 89

M3

5lr0642

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senators Simonaire and Jackson**

Requested: June 16, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of the Environment – Notation of Veteran Status and Eligibility for**
3 **Benefits**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of the Environment to establish a certain
5 process in collaboration with one or more boards under the Department’s direction
6 and control that requires a board to include a notation indicating veteran status on
7 a professional license or certificate and to assist in determining eligibility for State
8 and federal veterans benefits; and generally relating to veterans and professional
9 licenses and certificates issued by the Department of the Environment.

10 BY adding to
11 Article – Environment
12 Section 1–206
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Environment**

18 **1–206.**

19 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ESTABLISH A PROCESS IN COLLABORATION**
20 **WITH ONE OR MORE BOARDS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT’S DIRECTION AND CONTROL**
21 **THAT REQUIRES A BOARD TO INCLUDE A NOTATION INDICATING VETERAN STATUS**
22 **ON A PROFESSIONAL LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE AND TO ASSIST IN DETERMINING**
23 **ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE AND FEDERAL VETERANS BENEFITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
24 **THIS SECTION.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) IF THE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHES THE PROCESS DESCRIBED IN**
2 **SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICATION FOR A PROFESSIONAL LICENSE**
3 **OR CERTIFICATE SHALL ALLOW AN APPLICANT TO:**

4 **(1) PRESENT A CERTIFICATION OF VETERAN STATUS OBTAINED**
5 **FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES IN ACCORDANCE**
6 **WITH § 9-905 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, A DD FORM 214, OR OTHER**
7 **DOCUMENTATION ACCEPTABLE TO THE BOARD CERTIFYING VETERAN STATUS; AND**

8 **(2) INDICATE THAT THE APPLICANT CONSENTS TO:**

9 **(i) HAVING A NOTATION ON THE APPLICANT'S PROFESSIONAL**
10 **LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE INDICATING THAT THE APPLICANT IS A VETERAN; AND**

11 **(ii) BEING CONTACTED BY APPROPRIATE EXECUTIVE BRANCH**
12 **AGENCIES REGARDING THE APPLICANT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE OR FEDERAL**
13 **VETERANS BENEFITS.**

14 **(C) IF AN APPLICANT PRESENTS THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION AND**
15 **CONSENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A BOARD**
16 **SHALL:**

17 **(1) INCLUDE ON THE APPLICANT'S PROFESSIONAL LICENSE OR**
18 **CERTIFICATE A NOTATION INDICATING THAT THE APPLICANT IS A VETERAN; AND**

19 **(2) IN ACCORDANCE WITH §§ 4-304 THROUGH 4-325 OF THE**
20 **GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE LAW, AND ON**
21 **REQUEST FROM AN EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCY, ELECTRONICALLY TRANSMIT TO**
22 **THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCY APPROPRIATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE**
23 **APPLICANT RELEVANT TO DETERMINING THE APPLICANT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE**
24 **OR FEDERAL VETERANS BENEFITS.**

25 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT AND APPLICABLE BOARDS MAY ADOPT**
26 **REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.**

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 2025.