

Chapter 249

(Senate Bill 89)

AN ACT concerning

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

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

BY adding to

Article – Environment

Section 1–206

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2013 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

Article – Environment

1–206.

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

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

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

(2) INDICATE THAT THE APPLICANT CONSENTS TO:

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

(II) BEING CONTACTED BY APPROPRIATE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCIES REGARDING THE APPLICANT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE OR FEDERAL VETERANS BENEFITS.

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

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

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

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

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

Approved by the Governor, May 6, 2025.