

HOUSE BILL 270

P1

(6lr0088)

ENROLLED BILL

— Government, Labor, and Elections/Education, Energy, and the Environment —

Introduced by **Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – Veterans and Military Families)**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Military Family Inclusion Act**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the membership of the Maryland Trust Fund Board of
4 Trustees, the Maryland Veterans Commission, the Maryland Commission on
5 Caregiving, and the Maryland Youth Advisory Council; and generally relating to
6 ~~military~~ military-connected membership on councils and commissions.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – Human Services

9 Section 7–302(a)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 Article – Human Services
 2 Section 7–303(a)(1)
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland
 4 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

5 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 6 Article – State Government
 7 Section 9–914(a) and 9–2701(b)
 8 Annotated Code of Maryland
 9 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 11 Article – State Government
 12 Section 9–914(b), ~~9–914.1~~, 9–917, 9–918, 9–926(a), 9–927(b)(1), 9–935(a), and
 13 9–2701(c)(1)
 14 Annotated Code of Maryland
 15 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Human Services**

19 7–302.

20 (a) There is a Maryland Commission on Caregiving in the Department.

21 7–303.

22 (a) (1) The Commission consists of the following members:

23 (i) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
 24 President of the Senate;

25 (ii) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
 26 of the House; and

27 (iii) the following members appointed by the Governor:

28 1. two representatives from the Department of Human
 29 Services;

30 2. three representatives from the Maryland Department of
 31 Health;

32 3. one representative from the Department of Aging;

- 1 4. one representative from an area agency on aging;
- 2 5. one representative from the Department of Disabilities;
- 3 6. one representative from the Maryland Respite Care
- 4 Coalition;
- 5 7. two consumers of respite care services;
- 6 8. three family caregivers; [and]
- 7 9. three representatives of organizations that provide or
- 8 have interest or expertise in respite care services; AND

9 **10. ONE FAMILY CAREGIVER OF A SERVICE-DISABLED**
 10 **VETERAN.**

11 **Article – State Government**

12 9–914.

13 (a) The powers and duties of the Trust shall rest in and be exercised by a Board
 14 of Trustees.

15 (b) The Board of Trustees shall consist of the following 12 members:

- 16 (1) the Secretary, ex officio, or the Secretary’s designee, who shall serve as
- 17 the chair;
- 18 (2) the Secretary of Aging, ex officio, or the Secretary’s designee;
- 19 (3) the Secretary of Labor, ex officio, or the Secretary’s designee;
- 20 (4) the Secretary of Health, ex officio, or the Secretary’s designee;
- 21 (5) the Secretary of Human Services, ex officio, or the Secretary’s designee;
- 22 (6) the Secretary of Disabilities, ex officio, or the Secretary’s designee;
- 23 (7) the Adjutant General of the Military Department, ex officio, or the
- 24 Adjutant General’s designee;
- 25 (8) one representative of each of the following organizations, appointed by
- 26 the Governor:
 - 27 (i) a veterans service organization;

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1 (ii) a nonprofit organization that serves veterans; and

2 (iii) the business community;

3 (9) **AS AN EX OFFICIO TRUSTEE**, a member of the House of Delegates
4 appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

5 (10) **AS AN EX OFFICIO TRUSTEE**, a member of the Senate appointed by the
6 President of the Senate.

7 ~~9-914.1.~~

8 ~~(a) The Board shall meet at places and dates to be determined by the Board, but~~
9 ~~not less than 2 times a year.~~

10 ~~(b) A majority of the VOTING trustees is a quorum.~~

11 ~~(c) A trustee:~~

12 ~~(1) may not receive compensation as a trustee; but~~

13 ~~(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State~~
14 ~~Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.~~

15 ~~(d) The Department shall provide staff, supplies, and office space for the Board.~~

16 9-917.

17 (a) (1) The Commission consists of the following members appointed by the
18 Governor.

19 (2) Of the members:

20 (i) 1 shall be appointed from each of the 8 congressional districts in
21 the State;

22 (ii) 1 shall be a veteran appointed from the State at large;

23 (iii) 1 shall be a woman veteran appointed from the State at large;

24 (iv) 1 shall be a representative of a retired enlisted organization;

25 (v) 1 shall be a veteran of the Iraq or Afghanistan conflict, as defined
26 in § 1-202(a-1) of the Public Safety Article; **AND**

(vi) 1 shall be appointed from a list of individuals submitted to the Governor by each of the following organizations:

1. [the American Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc.;
- 2.] the American Legion;
- [3.] 2. the AMVETS;
- [4.] 3. the Catholic War Veterans;
- [5.] 4. the Disabled American Veterans;
- [6.] 5. the Fleet Reserve Association;
- [7.] 6. the Jewish War Veterans;
- [8.] 7. the Marine Corps League;
- [9.] 8. the Maryland Military Officers Association of America;
- [10.] 9. the Military Order of the Purple Heart;
- [11. the Polish Legion of American Veterans;
- 12.] 10. the Veterans of Foreign Wars;
- [13.] 11. the Vietnam Veterans of America;
- [14.] 12. the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.;
- [15.] 13. the National Association for Black Veterans;
- [16.] 14. the Colonial Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America; [and]
- [17.] 15. the Reserve Organization of America; and
16. AN ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING MILITARY FAMILIES.

[(vii) 1 shall be an honorary nonvoting member appointed from a list of individuals submitted to the Governor by the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.]

(b) Each member must be a resident of the State ~~and a veteran.~~

1 (c) (1) The term of an appointed member is 5 years.

2 (2) The terms of the appointed members are staggered as required by the
3 terms provided for members of the Commission on October 1, 1984.

4 (3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is
5 appointed and qualifies.

6 (4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the
7 rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

8 (5) When an organization is no longer a part of the Commission, the
9 appointment shall terminate at the end of the current member's term.

10 **(6) AN ORGANIZATION'S REPRESENTATIVE SEAT MAY BE REMOVED IF**
11 **THE ORGANIZATION FAILS TO APPOINT A NEW COMMISSIONER FOR 2 CONTINUOUS**
12 **YEARS.**

13 **(7) AN ORGANIZATION MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE COMMISSION IF**
14 **A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE ORGANIZATION IS NOT RECOMMENDED BY THAT**
15 **ORGANIZATION.**

16 [(d) A new organization may not be eligible for representation on the Commission,
17 by appointment of the Governor, unless it is congressionally chartered.]

18 9-918.

19 (a) From among the members of the Commission, the Governor shall appoint a
20 [chairman] CHAIR.

21 (b) A vice [chairman] CHAIR shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the
22 Commission.

23 9-926.

24 (a) From among its members, the Veterans' Home Commission shall elect a
25 [chairman] CHAIR, a secretary, and any other officers that the Commission considers
26 appropriate.

27 9-927.

28 (b) (1) The Veterans' Home Commission shall meet:

29 (i) at least twice a year, at the times and places that it determines;
30 and

1 (ii) at the call of the [Chairman] CHAIR, on the [Chairman's]
2 CHAIR'S initiative or on the request of at least 4 members.

3 9-935.

4 (a) From among its members, the Commission may elect:

5 (1) a [chairman] CHAIR;

6 (2) a vice [chairman] CHAIR; and

7 (3) a secretary and a treasurer or a secretary-treasurer.

8 9-2701.

9 (b) There is a Maryland Youth Advisory Council.

10 (c) (1) The Council consists of:

11 (i) four youths appointed by the President of the Senate;

12 (ii) four youths appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates;

13 (iii) four youths appointed by the Governor; and

14 (iv) the following members appointed by the Governor's Office for

15 Children:

16 1. four youths nominated by the local management boards
17 established under § 8-301 of the Human Services Article;

18 2. four youths nominated by the Maryland Association of
19 Student Councils;

20 3. two youths nominated by the University System of
21 Maryland Student Council; [and]

22 4. the following youths nominated by the Student Advisory
23 Council to the Maryland Higher Education Commission:

24 A. one youth who is enrolled in a community college; and

25 B. one youth who is enrolled in a private college or university;

26 AND

