To the Members of the General Assembly

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On May 12, 2023, the Honorable Wes Moore, Governor; the Honorable Bill Ferguson, President of the Senate; and the Honorable Adrienne A. Jones, Speaker of the House of Delegates, signed the following pieces of legislation, which you passed:

**SB 554**  
Chapter 612  
The President (By Request – Administration), et al  
MARYLAND NATIONAL GUARD – TRICARE PREMIUM REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT (HEALTH CARE FOR HEROES ACT OF 2023)

Establishing the Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program in the Military Department for the Department to award grants to reimburse certain members of the National Guard for the cost of premiums for certain health care and dental care plans; and requiring the Department to adopt regulations to administer and implement the program.  
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

**HB 554**  
Chapter 613  
The Speaker (By Request – Administration), et al  
INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION FOR MILITARY RETIREMENT INCOME (KEEP OUR HEROES HOME ACT)

Increasing the amount of a certain subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain military retirement income received by individuals under the age of 55 years to $12,500 and individuals at least 55 years of age to $20,000 during the taxable year for certain military service; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022.  
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SB 553  
Chapter 614  
The President (By Request – Administration), et al  
INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION FOR MILITARY RETIREMENT INCOME (KEEP OUR HEROES HOME ACT)  
Increasing the amount of a certain subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain military retirement income received by individuals under the age of 55 years to $12,500 and individuals at least 55 years old to $20,000 during the taxable year for certain military service; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022.  
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

HB 480  
Chapter 615  
Delegate Rogers, et al  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS – BURIAL IN STATE VETERANS’ CEMETERIES – SPOUSES AND DEPENDENTS  
Requiring the Department of Veterans Affairs to bury the eligible spouse or dependent of a veteran in a State veterans’ cemetery without charge.  
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

SB 286  
Chapter 616  
Senator Simonaire, et al  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS – BURIAL IN STATE VETERANS’ CEMETERIES – SPOUSES AND DEPENDENTS  
Requiring the Department of Veterans Affairs to bury the eligible spouse or dependent of a veteran in a State veterans’ cemetery without charge.  
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

SB 354  
Chapter 617  
Senator Gile, et al  
INCOME TAX CHECKOFF – MARYLAND VETERANS TRUST FUND  
Establishing a certain income tax checkoff for voluntary contributions to the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund; and requiring, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024, the Comptroller to include a checkoff on individual income tax return forms for voluntary contributions to the Fund and to include certain information in each individual income tax return package.  
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HB 316
Delegate Bagnall, et al
Chapter 618
INCOME TAX CHECKOFF – MARYLAND VETERANS TRUST FUND

Establishing a certain income tax checkoff for voluntary contributions to the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund; requiring the Comptroller to include certain information in each individual income tax return package; etc.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

HB 1162
Delegate Griffith, et al
Chapter 619
STUDY ON THE UTILIZATION OF THE EXPEDITED LICENSING PROCESS FOR SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor, in consultation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, to conduct a study on the utilization of the expedited licensing process for service members, veterans, and military spouses for certain occupational and professional licenses in the State; and requiring the Maryland Department of Labor, in consultation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by June 30, 2024.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

HB 726
Delegate Feldmark, et al
Chapter 620
MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – AUTISM WAIVER – MILITARY FAMILIES

Requiring, unless the child’s family requests that the child be removed, that a child on the registry for the Autism Waiver remain on the registry if the child’s family relocates out of the State for military service; and providing that if a child on the registry for the Waiver becomes eligible for services while the child’s family is out of the State for military service, the child shall be eligible for services through the Waiver if the family relocates to the State.
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**SB 231**  
Senator Beidle, et al

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – AUTISM WAIVER – MILITARY FAMILIES

Requiring, unless the child’s family has requested that the child be removed, that a child on the registry for the Autism Waiver remain on the registry if the child’s family relocates out of the State for military service.  
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

Sincerely,

Victoria L. Gruber  
Executive Director