

PAT YOUNG
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Baltimore County

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Appropriations Committee

Chair
Oversight Subcommittee on Personnel

House Chair
Joint Committee on the
Management of Public Funds

Chair
Baltimore County Delegation

Vice Chair
Veterans Caucus



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 4th, 2020

HB 597 Higher Education - Nonresident Tuition - Exemption for Spouses and Dependents of Honorably Discharged Veterans

Honorable Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Jackson and Members of the Committee:

I am happy to introduce to you House Bill 597 Higher Education - Nonresident Tuition - Exemption for Spouses and Dependents of Honorably Discharged Veterans. This bill would allow for dependents and spouses who are using Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits to continue to receive the in-state tuition rate at public universities within Maryland after their GI Bill benefits have been exhausted.

The Veterans, Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, allows veterans using GI Bill benefits to receive the in-state tuition rate at all public institutions throughout the United States. This act also expanded eligibility to dependents and spouses with transferred GI Bill benefits, but only if they enrolled at a public institution within three years of the veterans' discharge date.

HB 597 would allow for only those who are actively using a transferred Post 9/11 GI Bill benefit from the Veterans Affairs department at their university to receive the in-state tuition rate, regardless of when the veteran retired or was discharged. Additionally, these students would be allowed to retain this in-state tuition rate, even once their GI Bill Benefits have been depleted, as long as they remain continuously enrolled at the university.

Thank you for your time and consideration of HB 597.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Young". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pat Young, 44B