



MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

HOUSE BILL 506 – SUPPORT

Higher Education – Nonresident Tuition Exemption for Military Personnel, Spouses, and Dependents – Alterations

Appropriations Committee

February 11, 2020

The Maryland Military Coalition is a **nonprofit, all volunteer, Veterans advocacy group** representing the interests of Maryland Veterans, Service members, and their Families. Our alliance consists of sixteen organizations, listed on the following page, with over 100,000 members. We represent about one-fourth of Maryland's Veterans.

The Maryland Military Coalition strongly supports House Bill 506.

As you know, this bill allows the dependent of an active duty service member to retain Maryland resident status for tuition when the active duty service member no longer meets the State residency requirement in the period between the acceptance to a public institution of higher education and enrollment.

Thus, the bill affects the dependents of active duty service members who are reassigned to another state after the dependent has been accepted but before enrolling in a public institution of higher education. Clearly, active duty service members often have little control over the timing or location of their assignments.

“Out of State” or non-resident tuition is often several times higher than that of “in-state” tuition. A change in the status before enrollment places the student in a situation where they must find another college at the last minute or pay higher tuition.

Maryland can alleviate this stressor on the family by allowing the dependent of the active duty service member of the armed forces who is assigned to duty out-of-state, and has received a letter of acceptance, to be deemed an in-state resident for purposes of determining tuition and fees at all state institutions of higher learning as long as the dependent enrolls and remains continuously enrolled.

The Maryland Military Coalition believes that we should allow the dependent of an active duty service member of the armed forces who is assigned out-of-state, and has received a letter of acceptance, to be deemed an in-state resident for purposes of determining tuition and fees as long as the dependent remains continuously enrolled in the institution of higher learning.

The Maryland Military Coalition **requests a favorable report for House Bill 506.**

For questions or additional information, please feel free to contact me at
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Member Organizations, Maryland Military Coalition


Air Force Sergeants Association


American Military Society


Commissioned Officers Association of the
US Public Health Service


Disabled American Veterans


Distinguished Flying Cross Association


Fleet Reserve Association


Jewish War Veterans of the USA


Maryland Air National Guard Retirees'
Association


Military Officers Association of America


Military Order of the Purple Heart


National Association for Black Veterans


Naval Enlisted Reserve Association


NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers


Society of Military Widows


The Retired Enlisted Association


Veterans of Foreign Wars