

MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

HOUSE BILL 133 - SUPPORT

6 February 2020

Delegate Kumar P. Barve and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee House Office Building, Room 251 Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Barve and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Military Coalition to offer our support for House Bill 133.

The Maryland Military Coalition is a 501(c)4 social welfare organization, incorporated in the State of Maryland. We are an alliance of sixteen organizations representing over 100,000 members, about one fourth of Maryland's Veterans. Our coalition partners and signatories are listed on the following page.

Our mission is to advocate in the Maryland general assembly and throughout Maryland state government in order to improve the benefits and quality of life programs for Veterans, Service members, and their Families.

We believe that **House Bill 133** advances our goal of supporting measures to facilitate compliance with Maryland state regulations for Service Members during lengthy absences while on extended orders.

This important legislation exempts active duty Service members from mandatory vehicle emissions inspections, when deployed outside the United States.

There are plenty of financial hardships that come with deployment, especially if a Service member has a family at home that needs to watch the purse strings. Performing inspections on cars not being driven creates both a financial and a logistics burden for a deployed Service member.

The Maryland Military Coalition believes that we should take the measures necessary to ensure that Service members do not suffer financial hardship while deployed in service of our Nation.

We strongly support House Bill 133 and respectfully request a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Brian T. Smith Vice President BTSmith1184@outlook.com

Member Organizations, Maryland Military Coalition

Air/Force Sergeants Association

Commissioned Officers Association of the US Public Health Service

Distinguished Flying Cross Association

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

Military Officers Association of America

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National Association for Black Veterans

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NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers

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The Retired Enlisted Association

American Military Society

Disabled American Veterans

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Fleet Reserve Association

Maryland Air National Guard Retirees' Association

Military Order of the Purple Heart

Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

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Society of Military Widows

Veterans of Foreign Wars