



THE AMERICAN LEGION
Department of Maryland
Legislative Commission

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STATEMENT IN SUPPORT FOR HOUSE BILL 646
VEHICLE REGISTRATION – SPECIAL PLATES for VETERANS – FEES

Chairman Barve and distinguished members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee, The American Legion Department of Maryland compellingly believes House Bill 646 has a dual benefit. It first recognizes a special breed of military fighting personnel and, through this recognition, aid those veterans who are temporarily in financial difficulties.

HB 646 creates a special motor vehicle registration plate for those persons who served in combat areas with the residual cost benefitting the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund.

All military active duty personnel including those reservists who have been called to active service are expected to lay their lives on the line daily. However, support members whether they be flight line personnel, administrative staff and others are away from the fields of battle to provide vital support those who bravely go to the front lines.

The Maryland Veterans Trust Fund administered by the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs provides direct aid to those who have suffered financial difficulty. This valuable program helps with a one-time grant to the veteran and his or her family who have mortgage or rent difficulties or are in arrears for car payments and the like.

The American Legion believes HB 646 is a vitally sound program recognizing special individuals and aiding their compatriots who are experiencing financial difficulty. We respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 646 and commend Delegate Young for his compassion and vision towards his compatriots in arms.

Yours, respectfully

Patrick Guibao

Patrick J. Guibao
Chair
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