



THE AMERICAN LEGION
Department of Maryland
Legislative Commission

1020 Wallace Road
Crownsville MD 21032-1318

443.949.6322
patguibao@icloud.com

*STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR HOUSE BILL 0012
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS –
HOMES FOR VETERANS –
VETERANS OF UNIFORMED SERVICES*

The honorable Delegate Shane E. Pendergrass and distinguished members of the House Health and Government Operations.

The American Legion, representing over 45,000 members based in 136 in the 23 Maryland Counties and Baltimore City soundly support House Bill 12 enabling members of the uniformed services, to be allowed to spend their twilight years in a veteran's residence facility.

Members of the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Officer Corps recognized in the 2018 General Assembly as a service branch as valid and comparable to the five branches of the military service.

All veterans who distinguished themselves honorably in the service to our nation should be suitably recognized for their sacrifice to the nation especially when others, perhaps colleagues, chose a more financially lucrative path in society.

This addition to the Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home (CHVH) is recognized by The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) in the Fiscal and Policy Note accompanying HB 12 notes the passage of this measure would have "minimal operational impact on the MDVA. MDVA advises that the bill's requirement can be implemented with existing resources."

The American Legion respectfully request a favorable report of House Bill 12. Thank you

Patrick Guibao

Patrick J. Guibao
Chair
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Department of Maryland
Legislative Commission