



MARYLAND COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS

Harvey T. Kaplan, MMC Director for Maryland MOAA

March 7, 2020

Delegate Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee, Maryland House of Delegates
Room 241, House Office Building; Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Delegate Pendergrass and Members of the Committee,

For many years Maryland's Chapters of MOAA, with members in all Districts in our State, strongly have supported our active duty personnel serving world-wide. Of course, many of those currently-serving members of all seven of our Uniformed Services (both in the active and reserve components) also are members of our organization.

In brief, HB 1482 is intended to minimize unnecessary burdens and reduce stress on Maryland citizens (and often their family members) when sponsors are serving on active duty outside of Maryland as they attempt to comply with Maryland law, regulations, or established procedures of Maryland governmental agencies. The study called for in the Bill is designed to identify those burdensome and typically inadvertent requirements that have a negative impact on currently serving personnel within the United States outside Maryland or overseas, including at sea. Instead of continuing to correct problems one at a time, we enthusiastically support the concept of conducting a study to determine which laws/regulations can be corrected with either amendments to law, adjustment in policies, waivers (for specific periods of time or indefinitely), elimination of the requirements for target personnel, or other remedial actions by the Maryland General Assembly and, possibly, the Executive Departments, the Comptroller for Maryland, the Maryland Courts, or other agencies.

The MOAA Maryland Council is pleased to testify orally in support of HB 1482, and is anxious to assist the assigned government sponsor(s) in the study that the legislation authorizes over the balance of this calendar year. We are confident that the results of that comprehensive effort will enable the Maryland House of Delegates and Maryland Senate to identify mechanisms to assist in decreasing burdens on citizens of Maryland serving on Active Duty outside of our State on assignment with the Uniformed Services.

Sincerely,

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