

MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy

January 17, 2022

Honorable Guy Guzzone Chairman, The Maryland Senate Budget and Taxation Committee 3 West Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street Annapolis MD 21401-1912

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Honorable Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

Senate Bill 109, before your committee on January 19, 2022, is a valuable measure to aid and enhance the economic wellbeing of our active-duty community in Maryland. This measure would ensure that active-duty military service members stationed in Maryland and those returning to Maryland after active-duty service do not have to pay the vehicle excise tax if the car was registered in another state.

In relation to its relatively small population in our country, Maryland has one of the highest, if not the highest number of military and uniformed services' bases, posts and facilities in the nation, which contribute a significant portion of Maryland's economy. Our Active-Duty men and women and their families are an essential element of this dynamic. HB 109 would authorize an exemption of the vehicle excise tax to our Active-Duty population, an indication that our state supports them and 'has their backs.'

The Maryland Military Coalition, a voluntary, non-partisan organization representing 18 veteran service organizations who, in turn, serve over 150,000 former military men and women throughout our State. The Maryland Military Coalition supports and urgently asks for a favorable report on Senate Bill 109. We applaud Senator Elfreth for her continued commitment to the veteran community to enjoy a better life.

Yours, respectfully

Lynn a. Jask

Lynn A. Nash, CAPTAIN, U.S. Public Health Service (Ret) Communications Director

1101 Mercantile Lane, Suite 260 • Largo, Maryland 20774 (301) 583-8687 • (800) 808-4517

Member Organizations, Maryland Military Coalition

Ain Force Sergeants Association

<u>Elwood</u> Raphael Stay American Minority Veterans Research Project

Commissioned Officers Association of the

US Public Health Service

Distinguished Flying Cross Association

Turn Q. Butwick

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

Robert

Military Officers Association of America

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National Association for Black Veterans

An Association of Commissioned Officers

Catherine L. M. Straw

Society of Military Widows

American Military Society

Association of the United States Navy

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Maryland Air National Guard Retirees' Association

Military Order of the Purple Heart

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Veterans of Foreign Wars