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The Honorable C.T. Wilson
Chairman, House Economic Matters Committee
Room 231, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: House Bill 1162 - Study on the Utilization of the Expedited Licensing Process for Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses - FAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Wilson and Members of the House Economic Matters Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Army Alliance, in support of House Bill 1162.

The Army Alliance is a nonprofit advocacy organization whose sole mission is to provide support for one of our major military installations in the State – the Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG). From its founding in 1917, APG has grown into the central research facility for the United States Army, one of a number of such military installations in our State. APG and the defense community in the surrounding area are the largest employer in Northeastern Maryland.

A key element of meeting the employment needs in our region is a system that expedites the process through which military spouses may obtain Maryland occupational licenses for certain activities. This is an issue that has been identified by our federal Department of Defense as important to satisfying the need for experienced military personnel serving our military installations.

House Bill 1162 calls for an in-depth study of essential questions on this general issue. We note with approval the introduction of similar legislation (House Bill 196, sponsored by Delegate Crosby) that is currently under consideration in the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

Clearly this is a subject deserving of legislative attention and review. We applaud the sponsors of House Bill 1162, and urge the Committee to adopt a favorable report on the legislation.

Very truly yours,



Bryson F. Popham

cc: Jill McClune, Army Alliance Legislative Chair