

SB 448 MDP Written Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Andrew Wilson

Position: FAV



Maryland DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

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HEARING DATE: February 8th at 1:00 PM

BILL NO: SB 448

COMMITTEE: Education, Energy, and the Environment

POSITION: Support

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Wilson (443) 366-4224

TITLE: Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland

BILL ANALYSIS:

This bill establishes a Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland. The Commission, staffed by the Maryland State Archives, will be charged with studying the history of African American Civil War soldiers who fought for the Union Army in Maryland and making recommendations regarding the funding, design, construction and location of an appropriate memorial in their honor. Among the members of the Commission are one representative from the Maryland Department of Planning and one representative of the Maryland Military Monuments Commission.

POSITION AND RATIONALE:

The history of the United States Colored Troops (USCT) – those African American soldiers who joined the Union Army to fight during the Civil War – is not well known. While institutions such as the Maryland State Archives and Western Maryland’s Historical Library have endeavored to collect and share records on the history of these regiments and those individuals who served, public recognition of the unique challenges faced by these service members and their outstanding contributions to the war effort is needed on a statewide level.

There are only two memorials dedicated solely to USCT service members in Maryland at this time. Both focus on the contributions of local citizens rather than on the statewide impact of these soldiers’ sacrifices. The first of these is a stone obelisk dedicated “In Memory of More Than 400 Prominent United States Colored Troops from Kent County” which was erected in

1999 at Memorial Park in Chestertown, Maryland. The second monument, entitled the “United States Colored Troops Memorial Monument,” was erected in 2021 in Lexington Park, Maryland and is dedicated to those soldiers and sailors from St. Mary’s County who fought in the Civil War.

The Maryland Department of Planning would be honored to serve on the Commission proposed by this bill. The work of the Commission will go far to educate the public about the important role that these black Marylanders played in the history of the United States. A state sponsored memorial to Maryland’s USCT veterans is appropriate to honor the memory of these soldiers and is long overdue.

SB 448 - Testimony before EEE.pdf

Uploaded by: C. Anthony Muse

Position: FAV

C. ANTHONY MUSE
Legislative District 26
Prince George's County



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Anthony.Muse@senate.state.md.us

Judicial Proceedings Committee
Executive Nominations Committee
Vice Chair, Rules Committee

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony

SB 448: Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland

Good Afternoon Chairman Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and members EEE.
Senate Bill 448 would simply do what the title states, it would establish a *Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland*.

During the Civil War, six Maryland USCT (United States Colored Troops) regiments mustered into service. This commission will study their muster locations, membership roster of names, location of service, position upon battlefields, and all distinguished honors of recognition. This USCT Regiment Study Commission would also provide recommendations for the funding, design, construction, and placement of an appropriate memorial dedicated to the Maryland USCT Regiments. From the above date, we can generate educational material for the state board of education to incorporate into our history studies, determine locations for memorials/ plaques and ultimately inspire young African Americans to achieve greatness in honor of those who sacrificed in service and life. Even though the USCT didn't fight in any battles in Maryland, they were instrumental to the Union army in the Petersburg/ Richmond areas, which ultimately contributed to the success of the Union Army. Also, Monocacy Junction in Frederick County was a major recruitment center for the USCT. Both free and enslaved people served in the USCT. Enslaved men were enlisted by their owners and freed upon enlistment. Within the Maryland USCT infantry regiments four soldiers earned the Medal of Honor, the highest military award. These men deserve to be recognized for their invaluable contribution.

Therefore, I urge the committee to give a favorable report on Senate Bill 448.

Senate Bill 448. Written Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Cheryl Renee Gooch

Position: FAV

SENATE BILL 448

Written testimony (FAV) to support the establishment of Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland

**Cheryl Renee Gooch
African American Resources Cultural and Heritage Society
125 East All Saints Street, Frederick, MD 21701**

This year marks the 160th anniversary of Maryland's new state constitution that legally abolished slavery in November of 1864. Since 2013 Maryland has officially celebrated November 1st as Emancipation Day.

The African American Resources Cultural and Heritage Society, also called AARCH Society, chronicles, researches and interprets African American life and history in Frederick County, including the documented enlistments of more than 400 men who served in United States Colored Troops regiments formed here in Maryland as well as in Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts. They became agents of Emancipation.

An active partner of The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, AARCH Society supports this bill to establish the Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland and recommend appropriate memorials that honor soldiers who sacrificed to reunify our country and liberate 4 million Americans held in bondage. More than 8,000 African Americans in Maryland, free and enslaved, answered President Abraham Lincoln's January 1, 1863, Emancipation Proclamation that ordered the formation of what became United States Colored Troops regiments.

President Lincoln proclaimed:

I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free; and that the Executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.

And I further declare and make known, that such persons of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

Thereafter, General Order No. 143 established the United States Colored Troops. More than 200,000 men enlisted, among them 8,000 plus from Maryland. Six soldiers from Maryland received the Medal of Honor, our country's highest award for military valor in action. They were:

Private William H. Barnes from St. Mary's County who served in the 38th United States Colored Troops

Landsman William H. Brown from St. Mary's County who served in the Navy

1st Sergeant Decatur Dorsey from Howard County who served in the 39th United States Colored Troops

Sergeant Major Christian Fleetwood from Baltimore County who served in the 4th United States Colored Troops

Sergeant James H. Harris from St. Mary's County who served in the 38th United States Colored Troops

Sergeant Alfred B. Hilton from Harford County who served in the 4th United States Colored Troops

As this Civil War song reminds us, African American soldiers Maryland and all their fellow Patriots deserve to be known and remembered for re-unifying our country under one flag.

We Saved This Great Union for You

*We're old, weary soldiers; our battles are over,
Our footsteps are feeble, we're nearing the shore.
We're slowly and surely approaching the crossing,
A little while longer and all will be o'er.
When my comrades and I pass through
The dark valley,
Will you still be faithful? Will you
Remain true?
When the graves mark the spot where
The soldiers are resting.*

Remember! We saved this great Union for you!

The African American Resources Cultural and Heritage Society enthusiastically supports Senate Bill 448.

Carrington 2024 Testimony SB448 Study AA Civil War

Uploaded by: Darrell Carrington

Position: FAV



CARRINGTON & ASSOCIATES, LLC

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SB448 – Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland

FAVORABLE

Carrington & Associates, LLC extends its enthusiastic support for Senate Bill 448, introduced by Senator Muse, which aims to establish the Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland. The proposed commission holds great significance in preserving and understanding the history of African American Civil War soldiers who fought for the Union Army in Maryland. The comprehensive study outlined in the bill, including the examination of muster rolls, service locations, honors, and recognitions, is a commendable initiative to honor the contributions of these individuals.

The establishment of the Commission and its responsibilities align with our commitment to recognizing and preserving historical and cultural significance. Carrington & Associates recognizes the importance of acknowledging the sacrifices and accomplishments of African American Civil War soldiers and believes that this commission will play a crucial role in ensuring their stories are accurately documented and celebrated.

The provision for the Maryland State Archives (MSA) to staff the commission is a thoughtful step, leveraging the expertise and resources of a reputable institution for this historical endeavor. While we understand there will be a general fund expenditure increase of \$63,800 in FY 2025 for contractual support and the mandatory report, we believe this investment is justified in light of the invaluable historical and cultural contributions that will result from the commission's work.

We appreciate the comprehensive approach of the bill, covering the funding, design, construction, and location of an appropriate memorial dedicated to African American Civil War soldiers in Maryland. This forward-thinking approach ensures a holistic consideration of the project, reflecting the gravity and importance of commemorating this aspect of Maryland's history.

Carrington & Associates firmly believes that Senate Bill 448 will contribute significantly to the historical understanding and cultural enrichment of the State of Maryland. We commend Senator Muse for his leadership in bringing forth this impactful legislation, and we express our wholehearted support for its passage.

For the foregoing reasons, we respectfully ask for your favorable report for SB448.

If you would like additional information and/or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Darrell Carrington, Managing Director, darrell.carrington@verizon.net or 732-763-7398 cellphone.

SB448 Testimony 2024.pdf

Uploaded by: Debi Jasen

Position: FAV

Senate Bill 448 - FAVORABLE
Education, Energy, and the Environment

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee;

I ask that you give Senate Bill 448, regarding a commission to study African American Civil War soldiers in Maryland, a favorable report.

As I'm sure you know, Maryland has a complicated history in regards to the Civil War. The number of Confederate monuments that have existed in Maryland is appalling. Even though Maryland didn't secede, it wasn't until the 21st century that most of Maryland's monuments to white supremacy were finally removed.

We've done a poor job of honoring Union soldiers in Maryland, though they vastly outnumbered the Confederate soldiers from Maryland. I only know of one monument in Maryland that's dedicated to African Americans in the Union Army. This is unacceptable and it's long past time to change it. This commission would do just that.

I urge you to give Senate Bill 448 a Favorable report so that we can finally honor all of the Black Marylanders who fought for freedom during the Civil War.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Debi Jasen
Pasadena, MD

SB0448 Shatto-HCWHA written testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Elizabeth Shatto

Position: FAV

Testimony to the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
Thursday, February 8, 2024

Name: Elizabeth Shatto, Executive Director
Organization: Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (HCWHA),
22 S. Market Street, Suite 215, Frederick, MD 21701
Issue: SB0448 Commission to Study African American Soldiers in Maryland
Position: FAV

Senate Bill 0448 proposes the establishment of a Commission to study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland. The organization I lead, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, would be pleased to have a representative serve on the Commission. The Commission's work is relevant to our purpose – our mission statement makes clear that, with our partners, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area preserves and promotes **diverse stories** in our counties (Carroll, Frederick and Washington).

The proposed Commission aligns with our strategic plan, which sets forth foundational Principals for Interpretation to guide our decisions regarding historical research and storytelling. Briefly, they are: (1) the Civil War is unfinished business, (2) Complexity is interesting, and (3) If we don't know the stories, we can't share them.

CARROLL COUNTY

Hampstead
Manchester
Mount Airy
New Windsor
Sykesville
Taneytown
Union Bridge
Westminster

We need to know the stories of African Americans in the US military during the Civil War-era more fully. Established in the spring of 1863, the United States Bureau of Colored Troops raised up from recruiting stations throughout the Northern and Border States, including one of significance in the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, at Monocacy Junction, just south of Frederick. By the end of the American Civil War at least 540 men had been placed on the muster rolls from Frederick County and sent to enlist in a wide range of units. These included some of the most famous regiments, such as the 54th and 55th Massachusetts Infantry. Their contributions must be raised up, understood, and honored.

FREDERICK COUNTY

Brunswick
Burkittsville
Emmitsburg
Frederick
Middletown
Mount Airy
Myersville
New Market
Rosemont
Thurmont
Woodsboro

Senate Bill 448 anticipates a future tourism product – a memorial that will add to the range of visitor experiences that serve our residents and draw travelers to the State. Underlying the work of all certified heritage areas is tourism enhancement, development, and promotion. Investment in heritage tourism generates a return from which all Marylanders benefit. The most recent impact study found that the Maryland Heritage Areas Program contributes a combined total of \$2.4 billion to the Maryland economy, supports and sustains a combined total of 33,815 full-time and part-time jobs throughout the state, and generates \$319.8 million in state and local tax impact. Underlying the work of all certified heritage areas is tourism enhancement and development and promotion. Investment in heritage tourism generates a return from which all Marylanders benefit. The most recent impact study found that the Maryland Heritage Areas Program contributes a combined total of \$2.4 billion to the Maryland economy, supports and sustains a combined total of 33,815 full-time and part-time jobs throughout the state, and generates \$319.8 million in state and local tax impact.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Boonsboro
Clear Spring
Funkstown
Hagerstown
Hancock
Keedysville
Sharpsburg
Smithsburg
Williamsport

Products that benefit from the work of the proposed Commission will contribute to the growing economic impact of tourism and help establish Maryland as a place that is responsive to changes in demographics and emerging trends in the travel market. Besides a future memorial, Maryland's museums, historic sites, battlefields as well as numerous cultural and natural resources, will have a source where valid and vetted primary sources can be discovered and used to create compelling exhibits, arts programming, history-themed outdoor recreation and more. Educators will be equipped to tell Maryland's history more completely. Even small businesses, especially those housed in historic structures or operating in historic rural landscapes, may draw on the work of the Commission as they develop their brands and their consumer base.

22 S. Market Street
Frederick, MD 21701
info@heartofthecivilwar.org
heartofthecivilwar.org

We recognize that, as currently drafted, the timeline for a Commission report is ambitious. We would also encourage expansion of the scope to include both soldiers *and* sailors – but that would, of course, add to the timeline challenge. These concerns do not diminish our support for Senate Bill 448. We welcome robust discussion and hope for your favorable consideration. Thank you.



SB0448 Letter of Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Emily Squires

Position: FAV

Hon. Wes Moore
Governor
Hon. Aruna K. Miller
Lt. Governor
Elaine Rice Bachmann
State Archivist and
Commissioner of Land Patents
Mark Letzer
Chairman, Maryland Commission
on Artistic Property



Hall of Records Commission:
Hon. Matthew J. Fader, Chair
Katie Caljean
Atif Chaundry, J.D.
Ronald Daniels, L.L.M., J.D.
Nora Demleitner, L.L.M., J.D.
Hon. Dereck E. Davis
Hon. William C. Ferguson IV
Hon. Brooke E. Lierman
Jay A. Perman, M.D.
Hon. Samuel I. Rosenberg
David Wilson, Ed.D.

February 1, 2024

BILL: SB0448 Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment

POSITION: Letter of Support

The Maryland State Archives supports HB133 to create a statewide Commission to study, recognize, document, and honor the contributions of African Americans who fought in the American Civil War. Service records held at the National Archives document approximately 185,000 individual members of the United States Colored Troops during this era. Some of those participants were forced into service by War Department Order No 329 of 1863 which allowed citizens in states like Maryland to enlist their enslaved individuals in the Union Army with the promise of compensation for the loss of their laborers. This Commission would bring together important partners in this complex work to share their expertise and accelerate the process of proper commemoration of those Black soldiers from Maryland. As the permanent repository of Maryland's historic record, we urge the passage of this bill to more fully document the history of all people of our state.

The Legacy of Slavery Program of the Maryland State Archives (established in 2001) has, through collaborative partnerships and grant funding, brought to light the overlooked history of thousands of Black citizens who lived and participated in all aspects of Maryland's past, both civilian and military. Our staff strives to make this research fully and freely accessible to the public for genealogical and educational use, and our goals for documentation of the lives of both free and enslaved Blacks are aligned with this proposed Commission. Therefore, the Archives is in full support of this initiative to tell the story and to publicly memorialize those Black soldiers who built our state and our nation through their bravery and sacrifice. In endorsing this initiative, we have also respectfully presented a fiscal note to request the resources necessary to provide administrative and research staffing support as required in the bill and to successfully facilitate the work of the Commission on which we would be proud to serve.

SB 0448 Maryland Military Coalition - Favorable.pdf

Uploaded by: Jayson Spiegel

Position: FAV



MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Brian Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
Maryland Senate
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: **Request for FAVORABLE Report** – SB 0448 – Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland

Dear Chair Feldman and members of the Committee:

On behalf of the members of the Maryland Military Coalition (MMC), I write to recommend a **FAVORABLE report** by the Committee on SB 0448 the *Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland*, sponsored by Delegate Bouchat. This bill will establish a Commission which will study the history of African American Soldiers who fought for the Union Army and make recommendations for an appropriate memorial.

Many African Americans fought valiantly on behalf of the Union. However, the extent of their participation, their individual stories, and unit history are not well known, including African American Soldiers from Maryland. The Commission proposed in this legislation will address this gap by studying the history of African American Civil War Soldiers and publishing its findings to enhance public awareness.

Most importantly, the Commission will make recommendations for an appropriate memorial to African American Civil War Soldiers. The monument will serve to not only memorialize those warriors but serve as an inspiration for future generations.

The Maryland Military Coalition **strongly supports SB0488** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report from the Committee.

The Maryland Military Coalition is a non-partisan organization of 21 Veteran organizations representing over 150,000 Maryland uniformed services men and women and their families -- almost half of the 355,000 veterans in the State.

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

**Maryland Military Coalition – SB0448 –Commission to Study African American Civil War
Soldiers in Maryland
Page 2**

We want to thank Senator Muse for sponsoring this legislation and for his support of the
uniformed services community in Maryland.

Respectfully,

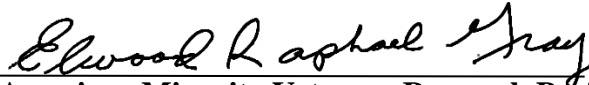
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jayson Spiegel". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Jayson Spiegel
LTC USAR (Ret)
President

Member Organizations, Maryland Military Coalition


Air Force Sergeants Association


American Military Society



American Minority Veterans Research Project

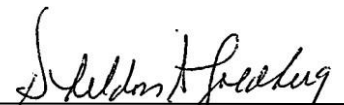

Association of the United States Navy



Commissioned Officers Association of the
US Public Health Service



Disabled American Veterans


Distinguished Flying Cross Association


Fleet Reserve Association


Jewish War Veterans of the USA


Maryland Air National Guard Retirees'
Association


Maryland Veterans Chamber of Commerce


Military Officers Association of America



Military Order of the Purple Heart

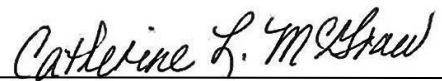

Montford Point Marines of America


National Association for Black Veterans


Naval Enlisted Reserve Association


NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers


Reserve Organization of America


Society of Military Widows


National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Veterans Affairs Directorate, NARFE MD


Veterans of Foreign Wars

SB 448 - MD Comm to Study AA Civil War Soldiers LO

Uploaded by: Morgan Murphy

Position: FAV



**Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of the Secretary**

**WES MOORE
GOVERNOR**

**ARUNA MILLER
LT. GOVERNOR**

**ANTHONY C. WOODS
SECRETARY**

February 7, 2024

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 448 - Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland

Dear Chairman Feldman and Committee Members,

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs supports SB 448 - Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland.

The MDVA believes it is crucial to understand the history and acknowledge the tremendous contribution and sacrifice of African American soldiers who fought for the Union Army during the Civil War.

Telling comprehensive and inclusive stories of service across our nation's military history has an impact on veterans today. When individuals from underrepresented communities who have served in uniform see themselves represented, they are more likely to view themselves as veterans and take advantage of benefits that can help them thrive here in the state.

This commission is a necessary first step in the process of creating a memorial dedicated to the brave soldiers who fought to end slavery and preserve the Union.

This is our history, it is Maryland's history, and it is American history.

We respectfully request a favorable report on SB 448. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony Woods". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Anthony C. Woods
Secretary

THE WINELAND BUILDING, FOURTH FLOOR
16 FRANCIS STREET, ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

TOLL FREE: 866-793-1577 • ANNAPOLIS: 410-260-3838 • FAX: 410-216-7928

veterans.maryland.gov
TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

SB448 PresMD FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Nicholas Redding

Position: FAV



PRESERVATION MARYLAND

February 7, 2024

Hon. Brian J. Feldman
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 11 Bladen St.
Annapolis, Maryland

RE: SB448 FAVORABLE

Chairperson Feldman,

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of Preservation Maryland and our thousands of statewide supporters, I thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in **SUPPORT of SB448** – a piece of legislation that will establish a commission to explore, interpret, and commemorate the service of Maryland’s African American Civil War soldiers.

Preservation Maryland is the nonprofit, statewide voice for historic preservation that harnesses the power of historic places by revitalizing and reinvesting in communities, advocating, and building the historic trades workforce for the benefit of all Marylanders. (Learn more at: presmd.org)

The new commission envisioned by this legislation would be empaneled to study African American troops recruited from Maryland and to make specific recommendations regarding potential curriculum, memorials, and opportunities to increase awareness of the nearly 9,000 African American soldiers from Maryland who fought to preserve our nation during the American Civil War. We support this legislation as we believe its passage would bring deserving attention, preservation, and much overdue official recognition to this unique and inspiring aspect of our state’s rich history.

SB448 is an innovative piece of legislation, and we urge a favorable report.

Favorable

Sincerely,

Nicholas A. Redding, President & CEO

240207_SB448_Commission to Study African American

Uploaded by: Sarah Roth

Position: FAV



February 7, 2024

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the
Environment Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan
Vice Chair, Education, Energy, and the
Environment Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Feldman and Vice Chair Kagan,

I would like to express my full support for *Senate Bill 448 - Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland*.

During the Civil War, six Maryland United States Colored Troops (USCT) Regiments were called into service. This proposed commission will study their muster locations, troop rosters, locations of service, battlefield movements, and all distinguished honors of recognition bestowed upon these regiments. Additionally, this study will provide recommendations for the funding and development of a memorial dedicated to Maryland's USCT Regiments, which will honor their contributions during the Civil War. While the USCT did not fight in any battles in Maryland, they were instrumental in the success of the Union Army through their deployment to Richmond, VA and the surrounding area.

As you may know, Maryland's Sixth Congressional District is steeped in Civil War History; being the home to three national parks dedicated to major battles of the Civil War, as well as numerous other sites that are frequently visited by historians and every day Americans who are interested in learning more about this important conflict in our Nation's history.

This is why a commission to highlight the important role that Maryland's USCT Regiments played in this conflict is so vital to telling the whole history of this war. These brave soldiers deserve the recognition for their service - too often their dedication and commitment to a free, united, and stronger America is forgotten, or worse, willfully withheld. Ultimately, through our preservation and remembrance of these regiments, inspiration for our next generation of Maryland leaders to achieve greatness and honor can be realized.

For these reasons, I strongly urge this committee to give *Senate Bill 448 - Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland* the highest consideration.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Trone", written in a cursive style.

David Trone
Member of Congress

2024 SB0448 Testimony Amending 2024-02-08.pdf

Uploaded by: Alan Lang

Position: FWA

Testimony for Amending SB0448

Please consider amending SB0448.

The bill wants to support research for preparing a monument to honor African American Civil War (AACW) soldiers who fought for the Union Army in Maryland.

What is the definition of AACW soldiers who fought for the Union Army in Maryland?

Who would be included or excluded based on that statement?

Will it include any Union AACW soldiers who were in a battle fought in Maryland such as Antietam, or just Union AACW soldiers from Maryland who were in a battle fought in Maryland?

Would Union AACW soldiers from Maryland who fought in other battles, but did not fight in Maryland be excluded or included?

What would be the status of Confederate AACW soldiers, if any, who may have been forced to fight battles in Maryland or were from Maryland and fought in battles in other states.

I believe the eligibility for inclusion should be better defined before the bill is passed.

Alan Lang
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Alanlang1@verizon.net