
February 22, 2024

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
Annapolis MD 21401

RE: Letter of Support – House Bill 716 – Motor Vehicle Registration - Fee Exemption - Unemployable Disabled Veterans

Dear Chair Korman and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) supports House Bill 716 and offers the following information for the Committee’s consideration.

House Bill 716 would extend registration fee exemptions from the existing 100% disabled veteran requirement to veterans who are unemployable due to a service-connected disability as defined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Currently, the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) processes exemptions for disabled veterans and offers free registration and free “Disabled Veterans” license plate sets to eligible customers. The MVA requires a customer to present a letter from Veterans Affairs (VA) confirming the customer’s 100% disabled status in order to issue the license plate set. Under the requirements of House Bill 716, the MVA would be able to accept a Veterans Affairs letter confirming those individuals who have been granted an unemployable rating and accordingly qualify for exemptions from vehicle registration fees. Recognizing veterans that have been granted an unemployable rating due to a service-related disability in this way, is one small way to acknowledge and honor their sacrifice and service to our country.

For these reasons, the Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee grant House Bill 716 a favorable report.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine E. Nizer
Administrator
Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration
410-787-7830

Pilar Helm
Director of Government Affairs
Maryland Department of Transportation
410-865-1090