

Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Office of the Secretary

WES MOORE GOVERNOR

ARUNA MILLER LT. GOVERNOR ANTHONY C. WOODS SECRETARY

February 22, 2024

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

RE: HB 716 - Motor Vehicle Registration - Fee Exemption - Unemployable Disabled Veterans

Dear Chairman Korman and Committee Members,

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs ("MDVA") supports House Bill 716 - Motor Vehicle Registration - Fee Exemption - Unemployable Disabled Veterans.

The MDVA believes it is important to recognize and honor the service of all veterans - including those who may have become unemployable disabled while serving in uniform. We acknowledge that veterans might have been awarded a disability compensation rating of less than 100%, but continue to feel a significant impact from their service-connected disabilities that prevent them from being able to maintain employment. Exempting these veterans from vehicle registration fees is a small token that shows them that their sacrifices are not forgotten by their community.

I respectfully ask the Committee for a favorable report on HB 716 to exempt Maryland's unemployable disabled veterans from vehicle registration fees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anthony C. Woods Secretary