



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

**WES MOORE  
GOVERNOR**

**ARUNA MILLER  
LT. GOVERNOR**

**ANTHONY C. WOODS  
SECRETARY**

February 5, 2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle  
Chair, Finance Committee  
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 214 - Maryland Military Installation Council - Membership

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee Members,

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs supports SB 214 - Maryland Military Installation Council - Membership.

The MDVA believes it is vital to recognize and acknowledge the integral role that military spouses play in the lives of service members, veterans, and their families. As such, we wholeheartedly support this bill, which adds a spouse of a service member to the membership of the Maryland Military Installation Council.

Military spouses offer a unique perspective and add a necessary dimension to understanding the issues and concerns of military families. Spouses are also best positioned to identify solutions to the myriad of challenges that may arise in the course of their family's service to the nation.

In keeping with the Governor's pledge to make 2024 the Year for Military Families, this bill ensures that a military spouse has a seat at the table to contribute their unique viewpoint on the Council. We respectfully ask for a favorable report on SB 214. 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

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