

One Park Place | Suite 475 | Annapolis, MD 21401-3475 1-866-542-8163 | Fax: 410-837-0269 aarp.org/md | md@aarp.org | twitter: @aarpmd facebook.com/aarpmd

SB114 Maryland Department of Labor – Licenses – Notation of Veteran Status and Eligibility for Benefits

FAVORABLE Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee Senate Finance Committee February 13, 2025

Good afternoon, Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Senate Education, Energy and Environment Committee; and Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and members of the Senate Finance Committee. My name is Jim Campbell President Emeritus for AARP Maryland and a former Maryland State Delegate. I chair the AARP Maryland Veterans committee and am here to support SB 114 sponsored by Senators Simonaire and Jackson. AARP has four areas of focus serving members of the military: caregiving, fighting fraud, helping with career and employment opportunities though the Veterans and Military Spouse Job Center, and access to benefits.

What does the bill do?

This bill authorizes units in the Maryland Department of Labor to include a notation of veteran status on a license or certificate issued by the Department.

How will it help veterans?

This is part of a package of bills by the sponsors designed to recognize military service by state employees and to help ensure they have awareness of access to earned benefits.

In recognizing the sacrifices, they made for our country, AARP believes we must ensure that our veterans have the most efficient access to the benefits they are entitled to receive. SB 114 will help achieve that goal and we urge a favorable report. For questions or additional information, please contact Tammy Bresnahan, Senior Director of Advocacy at tbresnahan@aarp.org or by calling 410-302-8451.