



**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF  
VETERANS & MILITARY FAMILIES**

**Office of the Secretary**

**WES MOORE**

*Governor*

**ARUNA MILLER**

*Lt. Governor*

**ANTHONY WOODS**

*Secretary*

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**House Bill 248 - Motor Vehicle Registration - Fee Exemption - Unemployable Disabled Veterans  
Letter of Information**

January 28, 2025

The Honorable Marc Korman  
House and Government Operations Committee  
240 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee-

The Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families (DVMF) is committed to leading veterans and their families through life's transitions, making Maryland the best state for the military-connected communities. DVMF fulfills its mission through five core programs: the Service and Benefits Program, which helps veterans access federal, state, and local earned benefits; Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, offering assisted living and skilled nursing care; the Cemetery and Memorial Program, providing dignified resting places and maintaining memorials honoring Maryland's veterans; the Communications, Outreach, and Advocacy Program, fostering connection and awareness; and the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund, offering financial assistance to veterans and their families in need. These programs reflect Maryland's commitment to honoring and empowering its military-connected community.

This letter provides information and context on the number of Maryland veterans classified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as "unemployable." We hope that this letter will help to inform the Committee about the relatively small fiscal and operational implications of House Bill 248.

The latest data available from 2023 shows 3,997 Maryland veterans are currently classified as unemployable. This designation refers to an individual who cannot maintain a steady source of income that supports them financially (known as substantially gainful employment) due to their service-connected disability. In addition, at least one of the following criteria must be true:

- They have at least 1 service-connected disability rated at 60% or more disabling, or

- They have 2 or more service-connected disabilities, with at least 1 rated at 40% or more disabling and a combined rating of 70% or more

It is important to note that even though this classification of veterans might have been awarded a disability compensation rating of less than 100%, they continue to feel a significant impact from their service-connected disabilities that prevents them from being able to maintain employment. DVMF recognizes the enormous challenges that unemployable veterans with service-connected disabilities face on a daily basis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Woods". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'A' and a distinct 'W' at the end.