

MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy

January 28, 2025

The Honorable Marc Korman Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee 250 Taylor House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: Request FAVORABLE Report – HB0248 – Motor Vehicle Registration – Fee Exemption – Unemployable Disabled Veterans

Dear Chair Korman and distinguished members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

On behalf of the members of the Maryland Military Coalition (MMC), I write to recommend a FAVORABLE report on HB0248 – Motor Vehicle Registration – Fee Exemption – Unemployable Disabled Veterans, sponsored by Delegate Mike Griffith. This bill would exempt from registration fees one vehicle that is either owned, leased, or personally used by an unemployable disabled veteran.

This legislation recognizes the sacrifices made by unemployable disabled veterans and the financial burden that registration fees place upon them. It includes them with other veterans who, as designated or classified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, have lost the use of a hand, arm, or leg, are totally disabled; have permanent vision impairment; or are the surviving spouses of a deceased disabled veteran.

The Maryland Military Coalition strongly supports HB0248 and asks for a FAVORABLE report from the Environment and Transportation Committee. These unemployable disabled veterans deserve this exemption.

The Maryland Military Coalition is a registered non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization comprised of 22 prominent Maryland-based veteran and military groups, representing over 150,000 service-connected individuals, including those currently serving, veterans, retirees and their families, caregivers, and survivors. Visit our website at https://www.mdmilcoalition.org/.

We want to thank Delegate Griffith for sponsoring this legislation and for supporting the uniformed services community in Maryland.

Respectfully,

David L. Dragics COL (Ret), U.S. Army

Legislative Director

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Member Organizations of the Maryland Military Coalition

Air Force Sergeants Association

American Military Society

American Minority Veterans Research Project

Association of the United States Navy

Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service

Disabled American Veterans

Fleet Reserve Association of Annapolis

Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A

Maryland Air National Guard Retirees' Association

National Active and Retired Federal Employees, Maryland Veterans

Maryland Veterans Chamber of Commerce

Military Officers Association of America

Military Order of the Purple Heart

Military Order of the World Wars

Montford Point Marines of America

National Association of Black Veterans

National Active and Retired Federal Employees, Maryland Veterans

Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers

Platoon 22

Reserve Organization of America

Society of Military Widows

Veterans of Foreign Wars