

Maryland Municipal League The Association of Maryland's Cities and Torons

TESTIMONY

March 25, 2025

Committee: House Environment and Transportation Committee

- **Bill:** SB 872 Local Government Hiring and Promotion Preferences for Veterans and Spouses of Service Members and Veterans (Families Serve Act)
- **Position:** Favorable

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) supports Senate Bill 872, as amended. The bill provides for a local government option to implement a hiring preference for military veterans and their spouses. The amendment added to SB 872 clarifies that the option to implement a preference articulated in the bill lies with the employer.

Municipal governments employ 24,000 people in the State and act as economic drivers of their region; hiring the right people to work in the public sector is critically important and this bill provides another tool for local governments to customize their hiring practices. Should a local government want to prioritize the hiring of military veterans or their spouses, this bill would allow them to do so. The amendment clarifies that the bill is enabling for the local government employer to implement the hiring and promotion preference described in the bill.

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League respectfully requests a favorable report as amended on Senate Bill 872. For more information, please contact Bill Jorch, Director, Public Policy and Research at <u>billi@mdmunicipal.org</u>. Thank you in advance for your consideration.