



MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
VETERANS CAUCUS

TO: Chair Marc Korman
Environment & Transportation Committee

DATE: February 28th, 2025

FROM: Maryland Veterans Caucus, House Membership

Testimony in Favor of HB01443 – Local Government - Hiring and Promotion Preferences for Veterans and Spouses of Service Members and Veterans (Families Serve Act)

Chair Marc Korman and members of the Environment & Transportation Committee,

The Maryland Veterans Caucus, House Membership respectfully requests a favorable report on HB1443.

This bill was sponsored by **Delegate Griffith** with the purpose of authorizing counties and municipalities to grant, by local law, a preference in hiring and promotion to eligible veterans, spouses of an eligible service member, spouses of certain eligible veterans and eligible service members, and surviving spouses of deceased eligible veterans; authorizing counties and municipalities to adopt a local law that allows for the application of a certain credit on a selection test for eligible spouses, eligible veterans, and certain spouses and surviving spouses.

Making sure Veterans in Maryland can be fully employed is a priority for the Veterans caucus. Veterans deserve to have preferential treatment in their positions with the county government because of the service and sacrifices they've already made for our state and country. Allowing local governments to give veterans preference in hiring and promotion decisions with counties and municipalities will help make sure our veterans are treated fairly and remain gainfully employed.

The Veterans Caucus mission it to study, develop, and promote legislation designed to improve the quality of life for veterans and families in the State of Maryland in the areas of employment, education, economics, training, and health. And to assist the Department of Veterans and Military Families in achieving its mission and goals, on behalf of the veterans and their families in the State.

The Veterans Caucus House Legislative Review Board offers and **recommends support and a favorable report of HB 1443.**

Thank you,

Mike Rogers

Delegate Mike Rogers
House Chair, Veterans Caucus

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To study, develop, and promote legislation designed to improve the quality of life for veterans in the State of Maryland in the areas of benefits, employment, education, economics, training, and health, and to assist the Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families in achieving its mission and goals, on behalf of all veterans in the State.