

Subject: Favorable for HB0455: requiring Maryland veteran's cemeteries to have braille flags

Date: February 11th, 2025

From: Harvey Guary

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To: The House Health and Government Operations Committee

I hope you will vote yes on HB0455, a bill requiring Maryland veteran's cemeteries to make braille flags available.

I was in the military from 1980-1987. I obtained the rank of staff Sargent (E5). I was a material facilities specialist, a job which the military can't do without.

I lost my vision in 2015. I went to the veteran's rehabilitation programs to learn the alternative techniques used by blind people. I am still in the process of learning Braille.

My family knows how important braille is to me. If this bill passes, I will take advantage of the option to have a braille flag so I can be remembered. Also, I feel strongly that any family members that have a veteran who is blind, or low vision would also want to take part in that as well.

Please vote yes for HB0455 so that the blind people can be included in veteran's burial ceremonies.