

Wes Moore, Governor Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

DATE: March 18, 2025 BILL: SB 172 – Maryland Veterans Trust – Board of Trustees - Membership COMMITTEE: Health and Government Operations POSITION: Favorable

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk,

The Maryland Department of Disabilities (MDOD) is pleased to submit this letter of support for SB 172 – Maryland Veterans Trust – Board of Trustees – Membership. This bill alters the membership of the Board of Trustees to include the Secretary of Disabilities or the Secretary's designee.

Of the approximately 390,000 veterans residing in Maryland, nearly 80,000 have a serviceconnected disability. MDOD is honored to be invited to contribute our perspectives, experiences, and body of knowledge as a member of the Board of Trustees.

I respectfully request a favorable report for this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carol a. Beatty

Carol A. Beatty Secretary