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March 30, 2026

The Honorable Ben Barnes  
Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
121 Taylor House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Barnes,

WSSC Water expresses its support for Senate Bill 243, the Uniformed Services Spouses Act. This legislation strengthens Maryland's commitment to military families by expanding access to educational and employment-related benefits for the spouses of service members and veterans.

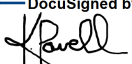
SB 243 would allow hiring preferences to the spouses of active-duty service members; spouses of veterans with service-connected disabilities; and surviving spouses of eligible veterans. Notably, SB 243 achieves this expansion of benefits without imposing additional operational or financial burdens.

As a large regional employer and anchor institution serving communities with deep military connections, WSSC Water values the contributions and sacrifices made by military families. Supporting initiatives that recognize and assist military spouses strengthens the workforce, enhances community resilience, and aligns with our mission to serve the public.

For these reasons, WSSC Water respectfully requests a favorable vote on SB 243.

Thank you for your leadership and for your continued support of Maryland's military families.

Sincerely,

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Kishia L. Powell  
General Manager and CEO