



MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy

January 21, 2026

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
The Honorable Jim Rosapepe
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 Wes Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: Request for a Favorable Report – SB 009 – Sales and Use Tax – Tax-Free Day – Veterans' Day

Dear Chairman Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe and Distinguished Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

On behalf of the Maryland Military Coalition and as their Communications Director, I write to recommend a **Favorable Report** by the Committee on **SB 009 – Sales and Use Tax – Tax-Free Day – Veterans' Day**. According to the Department of Veterans and Military Families [2024 report](#), Maryland is home to 360,098 veterans. This bill provides a tax-free day on Veterans's Day where the **price of the item for sale is less than \$2,000**.

We realize that this Committee is dealing with a \$1.4B deficit and that you are looking at many ways to reduce the deficit. However, I note that the state currently provides **ONE WEEK** of tax free school shopping in August, where qualifying apparel and footwear \$100 or less, per item, are exempt from the state sales tax. Additionally, the first \$40 of a backpack or bookbag purchase is also tax-free. As a parent of three kids and four grandkids, I know for a fact that getting them ready for school exceeded \$2000. A focused parent can use this tax-free period multiple times and get significant savings by simply paying attention.

Now I ask, shouldn't a veteran, most on fixed incomes, have **ONE** chance per year to buy a washer and dryer or a refrigerator tax-free? And, should they make that purchase, won't they invest those dollars saved in another purchase—hopefully from a Maryland small business? I truly believe so.

Maryland is a high-cost state. We have historically been losing veterans (and senior citizens) every year. These declining population are in part a factor in our budget deficit. I ask that you consider making a veteran's life a little easier by granting a **ONE DAY tax-free day** on Veterans' Day. The Maryland Military Coalition strongly supports SB 009 - Sales and Use Tax – Tax-Free Day – Veterans' Day, and asks you for a **FAVORABLE report**.

January 21, 2026

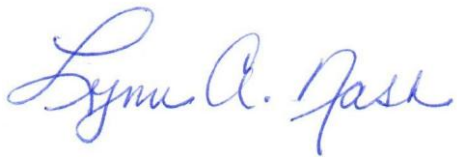
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Veterans' Day

The Maryland Military Coalition is a registered non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization comprised of 22 prominent Maryland-based veteran and military groups, representing over 150,000 service-connected individuals, including those currently serving, veterans, retirees and their families, caregivers, and survivors.

I want to thank Senator Brooks for sponsoring this important legislation and his on-going support of **ALL** of the uniformed services community in Maryland.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lynn A. Nash". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lynn" being the most prominent part.

Lynn A. Nash, PhD, RN, PHCNS-BC, FAAN
CAPT (R), U.S. Public Health Service
Communications Director

1 Attachment – Member Organizations of the Maryland Military Coalition



Member Organizations of the Maryland Military Coalition

Air Force Sergeants Association

American Military Society

American Minority Veterans Research Project

Association of the United States Navy

Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service

Disabled American Veterans

Fleet Reserve Association of Annapolis

Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A

Maryland Air National Guard Retirees' Association

Maryland Veterans Chamber of Commerce

Military Officers Association of America

Military Order of the Purple Heart

Military Order of the World Wars

Montford Point Marines of America

National Association of Black Veterans

National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Maryland Veterans

Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers

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Reserve Organization of America

Society of Military Widows

Veterans of Foreign Wars