

Maryland Military Coalition SB0083 Written Testimo

Uploaded by: DAVID Dragics

Position: FAV



MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy

February 3, 2026

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: Request for **FAVORABLE Report** – SB0150 – Notation of Veteran Status – Public Profiles

Dear Chair Feldman and distinguished members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

On behalf of the members of the Maryland Military Coalition¹ (MMC), I write to request a **FAVORABLE report** by the Committee on **SB0150 – Notation of Veteran Status – Public Profiles**, sponsored by Senator Bryan Simonaire. This bill authorizes the departments of Environment, General Services, and Labor to establish a process to include a notation of veteran status on their respective licenses, certificates, registrations, identification cards, or public profile upon the request and affirmative consent of the veteran. If the veteran agrees to have that notation applied, that individual also agrees to be contacted by appropriate Executive Branch agencies regarding their eligibility for State or federal veteran benefits.

The MMC supports the intent and processes of this bill. It **recognizes veteran status and reduces the burden on individuals to prove their eligibility for State or federal veteran benefits**, thereby improving the State's ability to actively connect veterans with benefits and services for which they may qualify, and saving the veteran personal time and effort to do so. We applaud this step in making it easier for those who have served other than dishonorably.

The Maryland Military Coalition **strongly supports SB0150** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report from the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee.

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

¹ See attached list of member organizations.

Subject: Request for FAVORABLE Report – SB0150 – Notation of Veteran Status – Public Profiles

their families, caregivers and survivors. For further information, visit our website at <https://mdmilcoalition.org/>.

We want to thank Senator Simonaire for sponsoring this legislation and supporting the uniformed services community in Maryland.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David L. Dragics". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'D' and 'L'.

David L. Dragics
COL (Ret), U.S. Army
Legislative Director



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

National Active and Retired Federal Employees, Maryland Veterans

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 Active and Retired Federal Employees, Maryland Veterans

Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers

Platoon 22

Reserve Organization of America

Society of Military Widows

Veterans of Foreign Wars

SB 150 Senator Simonaire_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Kara Contino

Position: FAV

BRYAN W. SIMONAIRE
Legislative District 31
Anne Arundel County

Education, Energy, and the
Environment Committee

Joint Committee on the Chesapeake and
Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area



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Bryan.Simonaire@senate.state.md.us

The Senate of Maryland
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

SB 150 – Public Profile for Veterans Notations

I am Senator Bryan Simonaire presenting SB 150.

This is a follow up bill from last year's bills that dealt with the numerous Department's *Veterans Notation on licenses* that the General Assembly passed.

As we were working our way through the legislative process late in the process last year, the Department Health requested an amendment to also allow the veteran notation be allowed on their '*Public Profile*' that they post on their website.

Therefore, this bill updates the other Department's *Veteran Notation* programs to include '*Public profiles*' to create consistency among the programs, in the event they want to do the same or sometime in the future.

I will note that last year the amendment inadvertently added an extra '*public profile*' in the wrong place, so that is adjusted in this bill as well.

That is the bill and for all these reasons, I ask for your favorable consideration.

DVMF SB150 Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Morgan Murphy

Position: FAV



**Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families
Office of the Secretary**

WES MOORE
GOVERNOR

ARUNA MILLER
LT. GOVERNOR

ED ROTHSTEIN
ACTING SECRETARY

**Senate Bill 150 - Notation of Veteran Status - Public Profiles
SUPPORT**

February 5, 2026

The Honorable Brian Feldman
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Committee Members,

The Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families (DVMMF) is committed to leading veterans and their families through life's transitions, making Maryland the best state for military-connected communities. DVMMF supports Senate Bill 150 - Notation of Veteran Status, which allows the Department of General Services, the Department of the Environment, and units in the Department of Labor to include a notation on licenses, certificate holders, and security identification cards indicating that the individual is a veteran.

DVMMF believes Senate Bill 150 honors Maryland's veterans by providing visible recognition of their service, which enhances their access to critical state and federal benefits. By allowing veterans to opt-in to share their status with executive agencies, SB 150 streamlines communication and improves outreach, ensuring veterans can connect with the programs and resources they have earned. DVMMF fully supports this initiative, which aligns with our mission to reduce barriers for veterans and foster greater collaboration across state agencies to serve them effectively.

Thank you for your attention to this important proposal, and I ask the committee for a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward C. Rothstein". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ed Rothstein
Acting Secretary

THE WINELAND BUILDING, FOURTH FLOOR
16 FRANCIS STREET, ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

TOLL FREE: 866-793-1577 • ANNAPOLIS: 410-260-3838 • FAX: 410-216-7928

veterans.maryland.gov
TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

SB 150 Not. of Vet Status - Pub Profiles - Simonai

Uploaded by: Robert Doyle

Position: FAV



NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
MARYLAND FEDERATION

EDWARD HOLLAND
PRESIDENT

TERESA BAKER
1st VICE PRESIDENT
LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

STEVE GROOM
2nd VICE PRESIDENT
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

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PAST PRESIDENT

DAN MCGRATH
PAST PRESIDENT

PAUL K. SCHWARTZ
VICE PRESIDENT REGION II

**Statement of the Maryland Federation of
National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Senate Education, Energy & the Environment Committee Hearing, February 5, 2026
On SB 150 – Notification of Veteran Status – Public Profiles**

(Position – FAV)

To: Chair Brian Feldman
Senate Education, Energy & the Environment Committee

From: Robert Doyle, Chair
State Legislative Committee
NARFE – Maryland Federation

I am pleased to provide our written statement today on behalf of the State Legislative Committee of the National and Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) Maryland Federation, representing approximately 317,000 federal annuitants and employees in Maryland. For the continuing benefit of the more than 3100 Maryland NARFE members who are Veterans – and for all Maryland veterans, we support and ask you for a favorable report on SB 150 – Notification of Veteran Status – Public Profiles. We thank Senator Bryan Simonaire for introducing this Bill.

HB 150 will establish the process to authorize the Department of the Environment, the Department of General Services, and units in the Department of Labor to include a notation of

veteran status on public profiles. Basically, the Agency's application for a license, permit, or registration must allow the applicant to request that a notation of the applicant's veteran status be included on the license, permit, registration, or public profile. An applicant requesting this notation must indicate consent to (1) having a notation of veteran status on the applicant's license, permit, registration, or public profile and (2)- very importantly -- being contacted by appropriate Executive Branch agencies about eligibility for State or federal veterans' benefits.

An applicant requesting notation of veteran status must submit (1) a certification of veteran status obtained from the Department of Veterans and Military Families (DVMF); (2) a federal certificate of release or discharge from active duty; or (3) any other documentation acceptable to the Agency.

This bill will result in Agency public profiles displaying the status of Veterans as a reminder that they deserve our gratitude and respect for their service. The bill also provides to Veterans a valuable way for them to connect with Federal and State benefits that they have earned through their service to our country.

To help our Maryland Veterans, we support and ask for a favorable Report on SB 150.

Robert M. Doyle, Chair
State Legislative Committee
NARFE – MD Federation
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SB 150 - EEE- BOP - LOS.pdf

Uploaded by: State of Maryland (MD)

Position: FAV



Board of Physicians

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D., Chair

2026 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO.: SB 150
TITLE: Notation of Veteran Status - Public Profiles
COMMITTEE: Education, Energy, and the Environment
POSITION: Letter of Support

POSITION AND RATIONALE:

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) is submitting this Letter of Support for Senate Bill 150 (SB 150) – Notation of Veteran Status - Public Profiles. SB 150 makes technical changes to §1-707 of the Health Occupations Article, which was amended during the 2025 legislative session to authorize health occupation boards to establish a process for including a notation of veteran status on a license, certificate, registration, or public profile.

The Board is fully committed to supporting the veteran community in any way that is within its mission. The Board believes SB 150 offers a valuable tool for recognizing veterans who hold a health occupation license. The Board stands ready to collaborate with the bill sponsor and proponents to further improve the licensure process for service members, veterans, and military spouses. For these reasons, the Board of Physicians respectfully urges a favorable report on SB 150.

Thank you for your consideration. For more information, please contact:

Michael Tran
Health Policy Analyst
Maryland Board of Physicians
(410) 764-3786

Sincerely,

Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D.
Chair, Maryland Board of Physicians

The opinion of the Boards expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Maryland Department of Health or the Administration.