



## MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

*Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy*

March 30, 2026

The Honorable Marc Korman  
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee  
250 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: **Request for FAVORABLE Report – SB0588 – Natural Resources – Complimentary Fishing and Hunting Licenses – Alterations**

Dear Chair Korman and distinguished members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

On behalf of the members of the Maryland Military Coalition<sup>1</sup> (MMC) I write to ask for a **FAVORABLE report** by the Committee on SB0588 – **Natural Resources – Complimentary Fishing and Hunting Licenses – Alterations**, sponsored by Senator Bryan Simonaire. **The Senate unanimously passed this bill.**

Senator Simonaire's bill addresses, under specific situations, free or complimentary fishing, hunting, and recreational oyster licenses, such as:

- Complimentary hunting and fishing licenses to game and fishing department enforcement officers from other states. Maryland is not the first state to offer such reciprocity licenses. Throughout the nation, many neighboring states offer complimentary hunting and fishing licenses. Adjacent to Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia are just a few examples.
- Changing the language from "shall" to "may", providing the Department of Natural Resources more flexibility with who should or should not receive a complementary recreational oyster lifetime license.
- Adding criteria for issuing complementary recreational oyster license for specific out-of-state residents.
- Adding the requirement to publish statistical reports that track the number of licenses sold, and the number of complimentary and lifetime complimentary licenses issued.

Licensing is a privilege, not a right. It's essential that the individual(s) entrusted to issue licenses has a clear understanding of who is and who is not eligible for licensure. This is why The Maryland Military Coalition **strongly supports** SB0588 and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report from the Environment and Transportation Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> See attached list of member organizations

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The Maryland Military Coalition is a registered non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization comprised of 21 prominent Maryland-based veteran and military groups. It represents over 150,000 service-connected individuals, including those currently serving, veterans, retirees and their families, caregivers and survivors. For further information please visit our [website](#).

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

Respectfully,

*David Lutzow*

David Lutzow  
Senior Master Sergeant (Ret), U.S. Air Force  
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

Reserve Organization of America

Society of Military Widows

Veterans of Foreign Wars