



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

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GOVERNOR
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SECRETARY

**Senate Bill 215 - Veterans and Uniformed Services - Maryland Veterans Trust Fund and
Application of Laws
SUPPORT**

March 31, 2026

The Honorable Melissa Wells
Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
145 Lowe House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and Committee Members,

The Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families (DVMF) is committed to leading veterans and their families through life's transitions, making Maryland the best state for military-connected communities. Our department supports Senate Bill 215 - Veterans and Uniformed Services - Maryland Veterans Trust Fund and Application of Laws

Senate Bill 215 continues the great work of legislators from last session by updating statutes to reflect federal definitions, and replacing "armed forces" with the more inclusive and "uniformed services," which includes all eight branches. The bill also adds fees from special registration plates for recipients of "non-combat-related" uniformed services medals to go to the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund, which supports veterans and military families across the State. This bill has no negative fiscal impact on the Trust Fund.

Thank you for your consideration, and I respectfully 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
Secretary