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Economic Matters Committee

Subcommittees

Banking, Consumer Protection, and
Commercial Law

Unemployment Insurance

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 17th, 2026

**Testimony in Favor of HB0420
Modernizing Civil Relief for Service Members Act**

Chair Wells, members of the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee and the Health Committee,

I respectfully request a favorable report of HB0420. The purpose of this bill is to bring Maryland in compliance with Federal law as it pertains to occupational licensing for service members and their spouses on active-duty in our state and provides tremendous benefits to our military and their families.

The federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, known as SCRA, is designed to ease financial and legal burdens on active-duty members during deployment. HB420 primarily updates Maryland law to be compliant with the SCRA federal law as it pertains to occupational licenses. In January 2023, the federal SCRA was significantly updated for all states to incorporate changes regarding the portability of occupational licenses for active service members and their spouses. There were additional changes made in 2024 and signed into law by President Biden.

Three years later, Maryland law is out of compliance with these important revisions; therefore, this bill revises Maryland law to the latest SCRA revisions. This is important as other states have been successfully sued for non-compliance. This bill removes barriers and expands helping our veterans and spouses get expedited licenses in health, education and financial areas to match what was done for the Dept of Labor in the Business Regulations in 2019. This will get Maryland into Compliance with federal law and provide some additional benefits for our veterans and their spouses.

Besides addressing compliance, this is a major improvement in the quality of life for our service members and their spouses. This bill takes great strides in "Making Maryland More Welcoming" for our Uniformed Services members and their families.

Now while we have tremendous support from many Departments, Boards and advocates, there have been discussions with some of the Health Boards to discuss their proposed amendment. Amendments have been requested and will be provided once available.

I respectfully request a favorable report on HB0420.

Sincerely,

Mike Rogers

Mike Rogers
Maryland Delegate, 32nd District