



## MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

*Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy*

January 23, 2026

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

Subject: Request for **FAVORABLE Report** – HB0270 – Military Family Inclusion Act

Dear Chair Wells and distinguished members of the Government, Labor, and Election Committee:

On behalf of the members of the Maryland Military Coalition<sup>1</sup> (MMC), I write to request a **FAVORABLE report** by the Committee on **HB0270 – Military Family Inclusion Act**, sponsored by the Committee's Chair at the request of the Department of Veterans and Military Families (DVMF). This bill alters the membership of the Maryland Commission on Caregiving, the Maryland Veterans Commission, and the Maryland Youth Advisory Council by adding positions to each that are related to family members of those on active duty and of service-connected disabled veterans.

The MMC supports this bill which further strengthens the mission and adds to the scope of the DVMF in supporting the uniformed services community in Maryland. As stated by Acting Secretary of Veterans and Military Families, Edward Rothstein, in the January 23<sup>rd</sup> DVMF Newsletter, *"These changes are important because effective policy is informed by those it impacts, and they support military families facing unique challenges such as employment, educational transitions, and access to resources."* In addition, these changes are in line with the Governor's oft-repeated statement of leaving no one behind.

The Maryland Military Coalition **strongly supports HB0270** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report from the Government, Labor, and Election 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 their families, caregivers and survivors. Visit our website at <https://mdmilcoalition.org/>.

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

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We want to thank the Chair for sponsoring this legislation at the request of the Department of Veterans and Military Families and the support for the uniformed services community in Maryland that it signifies.

Respectfully,

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

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