



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

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*GOVERNOR*  
**ARUNA MILLER**  
*LT. GOVERNOR*  
**ED ROTHSTEIN**  
*SECRETARY*

**Senate Bill 194 - Income and Property Tax Incentives -  
Members and Veterans of the Space Force - Application  
SUPPORT**

March 24, 2026

The Honorable Jheanelle Wilkins  
Ways & Means Committee  
130 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Wilkins, Vice Chair Feldmark, and members of the Committee,

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 the military-connected communities. In keeping with that commitment, DVMF supports Senate Bill 194, adding the Space Force to the definition of active military branches. This change aligns Maryland law with the federal definition of active duty branches.

Maryland is home to a significant military-connected population, including active-duty service members, veterans, and their families. DVMF believes it is important to recognize and honor the service of all service members and veterans. Adding members of the Space Force to the eligibility for income and property tax incentives shows them that their sacrifices are not forgotten by their community.

Thank you, Chair Wilkins for your attention to this important proposal, 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