



## MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

### Legislative Goals, Maryland General Assembly, 2020

#### Veterans & Families

- Support **Veteran mental health & suicide prevention efforts**
- A **full exemption of Uniformed Services federal retired pay** from Maryland state income tax
- Expand the **full Property-Tax Exemption** for service-disabled Veterans rated 100% permanent and total to include a greater number of our most severely disabled Veterans
- A **second Veterans Home** in Maryland
- Support efforts to **end Veteran homelessness**
- Ensure **surviving spouses** are eligible for any benefits afforded their Veterans
- Enhance support for **disabled Veteran family caregivers**
- Support efforts to encourage **Veteran entrepreneurship**
- Authorize **free tuition and fees at Maryland public colleges and universities** to severely disabled Veterans and their families, including surviving family members
- Ensure for-profit college accountability in serving Veterans using their GI Bill benefits
- Expand the Maryland **state income tax check-off program** to include the Veterans Trust Fund, the Veterans Service Animal Program, and the Recreational Licenses Donation Program
- Allow the **Recreational Licenses Donation Program** to award grants to nonprofit recreational therapy programs for service-disabled Veterans and Gold Star family members
- Enhance Veterans' ability to receive military service credit as Maryland government employees

#### Service Members & Families

- Support measures to facilitate compliance with Maryland state regulations for current Service Members and their Families, especially during lengthy absences while on extended orders
- Remove obstacles to Service Members' spouses achieving full employment