



# MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

*Serving Veterans Through Legislative Advocacy*

## Our Accomplishments

The Coalition meets with Legislators and their staff, makes recommendations for needed changes to bills, testifies, and writes letters of support to our representatives. Our grassroots efforts have demonstrated success over time.

### 2024

Supported these key bills which were passed and signed into law, including two of our four 2024 Legislative Goals:

- ✓ Families Serve Act of 2024 – Expands priority hiring to eligible spouses of currently serving members and veterans of the uniformed services (SB478/HB604)
- ✓ Property Tax – Disabled Veterans – Alterations – Expands credit to non-permanent 100% service-connected disabled veterans (SB006/HB064)
- Cosmetology Licensure Compact (SB027/HB383)
- Health Occupations Boards – Reciprocal Licensure and Certification (SB221/HB146)
- State Board of Dietetic Practice – Dietician and Nutritionist – Licensure Requirements (SB330/HB378)
- Health Occupations – Clinical Marriage and Family Therapists Reciprocal Licensure Requirements (SB409/HB628)

### 2023

Supported these key bills which were passed and signed into law, including three of our four 2023 Legislative Goals:

- ✓ Income Tax – Subtraction Modification for Military Retirement Income (Keep Our Heroes Home Act) – Increased the income tax exemption to \$12,500 for those under 55 and to \$20,000 for those 55 and older (SB553/HB554)
- ✓ Department of Veterans Affairs – Burial in State Veterans' Cemeteries – Spouses and Dependents – Required the burial of an eligible spouse or dependent of a veteran in a State veterans' cemetery without charge (SB286/HB480)
- ✓ Income Tax Checkoff – Maryland Veterans Trust Fund – Established an income tax checkoff for voluntary contributions to the fund beginning with tax year 2025 (SB354/HB316)
- 9-8-8 Trust Fund – Funding – Required \$12.5 million of funding for the fund in FY2025 (SB0003/HB271)
- Health Occupations – Clinical Nurse Specialists – Prescribing (SB213/HB278)
- Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Autism Waiver – Military Families (SB231/HB726)
- Commemorative Day – 6888<sup>th</sup> Central Postal Battalion Day (SB265/HB370)
- Child Care Providers – Registration and Licensing – Exemptions (SB289/HB292)
- Maryland National Guard – Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program – Establishment (Health Care for Heroes Act of 2023) (SB554/HB553)

✓ Denotes a legislative priority