



**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
Department of Maryland  
Legislative Committee

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**ENDORSEMENT IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 734 INCOME TAX –  
SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – MILITARY RETIREMENT INCOME**

Madam Chair Kaiser, Vice Chair Washington and distinguished members of the House Ways and Means Committee thank you for the opportunity to address our support on behalf of House Bill 734.

The American Legion Department of Maryland as part of its foundation requiring our second century old veterans service organization to be fully supportive of our men and women in uniform as well as their families. This pledge is acutely true for those who have sacrificed a large portion of their life and career in service to our country.

House Bill 734, as its predecessors before it, eliminates taxing on the retirement income for those persons who have served a career in the U. S. military.

Support for this measure by this committee will have multiple positive effects. It will provide a stimulus to those exiting the retired service personnel to reside in Maryland creating a stable addition to the tax base not only of the retired service member but the adult members in his or her family as well.

Successful passage will enable employers to have a greater selection of persons needed to fill job vacancies, particularly in the defense contract community where security clearances are necessary to employment. Departing personnel who have such documentation can easily step into a new career without the expense and time constraints for an employer or a job candidate must endure.

Finally, House Bill 734 will show the service man and woman that Maryland Cares! This bill can put substantive meaning behind the often used phrase, “thank you for your service.”

Statement of Support  
House Bill 0734  
February 8, 2021

We further believe the element toward phasing out the present taxation on retired military income will greatly ease the impact on the State's budget and in closing, The American Legion's over 46,000 Maryland members ask the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee to offer a favorable report on House Bill 734 and commend the Governor for his continuous compassion towards our service career veterans.

Respectfully, yours

*Melvin F. Graves*

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Vice Chair  
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