



# **MSBA Bill Report 2A - Military Law and Veterans' Affairs (2024.01.23)**

**January 23, 2024**

Affairs (2024.01.23)

[MD - HB408 Mental Health Law - County Mental Health Advisory Committees - Membership](#)

Last Action: Text - First - Mental Health Law - County Mental Health Advisory Committees - Membership (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Heather Bagnall (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Altering the membership of a county's mental health advisory committee by including an individual with experience with mental health care for veterans or individuals serving in the military on the list of groups from which individuals may be appointed to the committee by the governing body of the county.

Cross-filed Bill: SB412

Statutes Amended:

10-309 Article - Health - General

[MD - HB431 Department of Veterans Affairs - Renaming and Deputy Secretary of Military Family Policy and Programs](#)

Last Action: Hearing 2/06 at 1:00 p.m. (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Andrew C. Pruski (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

**Date:** February 6, 2024

**Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

**Location:** House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Renaming the Department of Veterans Affairs to be the Department of Veterans and Military Families; renaming the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to be the Secretary of Veterans and Military Families; requiring the Secretary to appoint a Deputy Secretary of Military Family Policy and Programs; and providing that the Department of Veterans and Military Families is the successor of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Cross-filed Bill: SB411

[MD - SB411 Department of Veterans Affairs - Renaming and Deputy Secretary of Military Family Policy and Programs](#)

**Affairs (2024.01.23)**

Last Action: Text - First - Department of Veterans Affairs - Renaming and Deputy Secretary of Military Family Policy and Programs (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Dawn Gile (D)

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Summary:

Renaming the Department of Veterans Affairs to be the Department of Veterans and Military Families; renaming the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to be the Secretary of Veterans and Military Families; requiring the Secretary to appoint a Deputy Secretary of Military Family Policy and Programs; and providing that the Department of Veterans and Military Families is the successor of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Cross-filed Bill: HB431

**[MD - SB412 Mental Health Law - County Mental Health Advisory Committees - Membership](#)**

Last Action: Text - First - Mental Health Law - County Mental Health Advisory Committees - Membership (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Dawn Gile (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Summary:

Altering the membership of a county's mental health advisory committee by including an individual with experience with mental health care for veterans or individuals serving in the military on the list of groups from which individuals may be appointed to the committee by the governing body of the county.

Cross-filed Bill: HB408

Statutes Amended:

10-309 Article - Health - General

**[MD - SB413 Discrimination - Military Status - Prohibition](#)**

Last Action: Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m. (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Dawn Gile (D)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

**Date:** February 8, 2024

**Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

**Location:** East Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Affairs (2024.01.23)

Summary:

Prohibiting discrimination based on military status with regard to public accommodation, housing, employment, financial transactions, education, insurance, the provision of public utility services, and State personnel actions.

Statutes Amended:

12-305,

12-503,

12-603,

12-702,

12-704 Article - Commercial Law

13-303,

2-206,

26-701,

26-703,

26-704 Article - Education

15-1A-22,

2-202 Article - Insurance

17-402,

17-402.1,

7-507 Article - Public Utilities

19-342,

19-355,

2-1001,

2-1002,

2-1003,

2-1004 Article - Health - General

20-101,

20-1103,

20-302,

20-304,

20-401,

20-402,

20-501,

20-601,

20-602,

20-603,

20-604,

20-605,  
20-606,  
20-610,  
20-702,  
20-704,  
20-705,  
20-707 Article - State Government

2-302 Article - State Personnel and Pensions

8-707 Article - Human Services

**MD - SB453 Mental Health - Emergency Evaluation and Involuntary Admission Procedures and Assisted Outpatient Treatment Programs**

Last Action: Text - First - Mental Health - Emergency Evaluation and Involuntary Admission Procedures and Assisted Outpatient Treatment Programs (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: President

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Summary:

Requiring a peace officer, when the peace officer receives a petition for emergency evaluation for an individual, to transport the emergency evaluatee to a nearby emergency facility, rather than the nearest emergency facility; authorizing a psychiatric nurse practitioner to evaluate an emergency evaluatee for purposes of involuntary admission; requiring each county to establish an assisted outpatient treatment program; etc.

**MD - SB477 Time to Serve Act of 2024**

Last Action: Text - First - Time to Serve Act of 2024 (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: President

Committee: Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Summary:

Increasing, from 15 to 30, the maximum number of days of disaster service leave for employees in the Executive Branch of State government; and increasing, from 15 to 30, the maximum number of days of paid leave the Secretary of Budget and Management may provide for uniformed services training or active uniformed services duty in a reserve unit of the armed forces or organized militia.

Statutes Amended:

9-1102,

9-1104 Article - State Personnel and Pensions

**MD - SB478 Families Serve Act of 2024**

**Affairs (2024.01.23)**

Last Action: Text - First - Families Serve Act of 2024 (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: President

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Summary:

Authorizing employers to grant a preference in hiring and promotion to spouses of eligible service members; and requiring the appointing authorities in the Executive Branch of State government to apply a credit of 10 points on any selection test for eligible military spouses.