



INTRODUCING THE MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION (MMC)

Veterans and military members can accomplish more in the Maryland General Assembly when the military community comes together as one powerful voice. That's the reason for establishment of the Maryland Military Coalition, now preparing for its role in 2019.

MMC will work hard to project a clear, united message to Maryland lawmakers. With about 460,000 military-connected people in the State, the need to "speak with one voice" is very clear.

As of September 1, 2018, 13 Charter military, veteran, and uniformed services organizations have joined the MMC, with one core purpose: to protect, defend, and improve benefits earned in military service to our great nation.

While every association has its own programs and goals, each year the MMC will forge a common agenda with its member groups, and will testify before the Maryland Legislature on critical issues of interest to Maryland veterans and their families.

The Maryland Military Coalition's strength lies in its membership. More than 100,000 Maryland veterans are members of MMC groups. Large numbers provide not only access to Maryland lawmakers but, more importantly, influence. When the MMC is an active participant in the legislative process, the expectation is that members of the Legislature are more likely to listen and act.

At times, not all of the associations will agree on a position. One of the key strengths of the MMC is the ability to come together to discuss the pros and cons of veteran and military benefits and issues. This delivers a greater understanding of the implications at hand.

The MMC will educate the Maryland Legislature and other elements of State Government about the need to improve the health care, benefits, and quality of life programs of the uniformed services community—including family members.

The MMC is modeled on the work of The Military Coalition, a national consortium of military and veterans organizations representing the interests of currently serving members—including the National Guard and Federal Reserves—veterans, survivors, and family members of the seven uniformed services. A number of states also have successfully built effective coalitions, thereby advancing the needs of those who have worn our nation's uniform.

Registered in the State of Maryland, the Maryland Military Coalition operates as a "Social Welfare Organization" under the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Code. Classified as a 501(c)4 tax-exempt entity, it is headquartered in Largo, Maryland.

The MMC would be pleased to welcome new member organizations that represent veterans and military members in Maryland. For more information, please contact John P. May at (301) 583-8687 or Bob Norton at (301) 758-1171.

[This document is current as of 4 December 2018.]

Charter Member organizations of the Maryland Military Coalition (as of 4 Dec 18)

Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA)

American Military Society (AMS)

Association of Commissioned Officers [NOAA Corps]

Commissioned Officers Association of the USPHS [U.S. Public Health Service]

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

Jewish War Veterans of the USA (JWV)

Maryland Air National Guard Retiree's Association

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)

Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW)

National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS)

The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA)

Veterans of Foreign Wars Maryland (VFW)

Charter Membership is open to other veterans groups operating in the State of Maryland through 31 December 2018.