

# SENATE BILL 167

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(PRE-FILED)

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By: Senator Simonaire

Requested: July 3, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Natural Resources – Licenses, Permits, Registrations, and Public**  
3 **Profiles – Notation of Veteran Status**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to establish a certain  
5 process to include a notation of veteran status on a license, permit, registration, or  
6 public profile; and generally relating to veterans and licenses, permits, registrations,  
7 and public profiles of the Department of Natural Resources.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Natural Resources

10 Section 1–403.2

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Natural Resources**

16 **1–403.2.**

17 (A) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO INCLUDE A  
18 NOTATION INDICATING VETERAN STATUS ON A LICENSE, PERMIT, REGISTRATION,  
19 OR PUBLIC PROFILE.

20 (B) IF THE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHES A PROCESS UNDER THIS SECTION,  
21 AN APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE, PERMIT, OR REGISTRATION SHALL ALLOW THE  
22 APPLICANT TO REQUEST THAT A NOTATION OF THE APPLICANT'S VETERAN STATUS  
23 BE INCLUDED ON THE LICENSE, PERMIT, REGISTRATION, OR PUBLIC PROFILE.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (C) AN APPLICANT FOR A LICENSE, PERMIT, OR REGISTRATION WHO  
2 REQUESTS THAT A NOTATION OF THE APPLICANT'S VETERAN STATUS BE INCLUDED  
3 ON THE LICENSE, PERMIT, REGISTRATION, OR PUBLIC PROFILE SHALL:

4           (1) SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

5               (I) A CERTIFICATION OF VETERAN STATUS OBTAINED FROM  
6 THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH §  
7 9-905 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE;

8               (II) A FEDERAL CERTIFICATE OF RELEASE OR DISCHARGE  
9 FROM ACTIVE DUTY (DD FORM 214); OR

10              (III) ANY OTHER DOCUMENTATION CERTIFYING VETERAN  
11 STATUS ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT; AND

12           (2) INDICATE THAT THE APPLICANT CONSENTS TO:

13               (I) HAVING A NOTATION ON THE APPLICANT'S LICENSE,  
14 PERMIT, REGISTRATION, OR PUBLIC PROFILE INDICATING THAT THE APPLICANT IS  
15 A VETERAN; AND

16               (II) BEING CONTACTED BY APPROPRIATE EXECUTIVE BRANCH  
17 AGENCIES REGARDING THE APPLICANT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE OR FEDERAL  
18 VETERANS' BENEFITS.

19           (D) IF AN APPLICANT SUBMITS THE DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED UNDER  
20 SUBSECTION (C)(1) OF THIS SECTION AND CONSENTS TO BEING CONTACTED UNDER  
21 SUBSECTION (C)(2) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE A  
22 NOTATION OF VETERAN STATUS ON THE LICENSE, PERMIT, REGISTRATION, OR  
23 PUBLIC PROFILE.

24           (E) IN ACCORDANCE WITH §§ 4-304 THROUGH 4-325 OF THE GENERAL  
25 PROVISIONS ARTICLE AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE LAW, AND ON REQUEST BY AN  
26 EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCY, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ELECTRONICALLY  
27 TRANSMIT TO THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCY APPROPRIATE INFORMATION  
28 ABOUT EACH LICENSE HOLDER, PERMIT HOLDER, REGISTRANT, OR INDIVIDUAL  
29 WITH A PUBLIC PROFILE WHO HAS CONSENTED TO BEING CONTACTED UNDER  
30 SUBSECTION (C)(2) OF THIS SECTION.

31           (F) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS  
32 SECTION.

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 October 1, 2026.