

## BRIEFING OUTLINE

for the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs  
401 Hungerford Drive; Rockville, Maryland 20850 – 6:00 PM, 15 December 2015

**SUBJECT: Veterans Issues in Maryland for CY 2016 [One Citizen-Soldier's Perspective]**  
Introduction with MOAA's Latest State Report Card – Military Officer, November 2015  
<http://www1.moaa.org/statereport>

1. Veterans Treatment Courts in Maryland
  - Rationale for these courts
  - Position of General Assembly
  - Status in the State of Maryland [see pp. 1 & 15: [www.mdlegion.org/Forms/fsw.pdf](http://www.mdlegion.org/Forms/fsw.pdf) ]
  - Ongoing efforts to implement at Circuit and District Court Level
  
2. Tax Relief on Uniformed Services Retired Pay and SBP Payments (State & County Issue)
  - The MRVTF 2015 Study on Increasing State Tax Revenue by Retaining and Attracting Retired Military Service Personnel (RMSP) – [www.amsms.com/mrvtf.html](http://www.amsms.com/mrvtf.html) **Economic competition among states!**
  - Result of Actions/Inactions in the General Assembly last session (January-April 2015)
  - Current Positions of the Administration (including State Comptroller), County Executive, Veterans Caucus in Annapolis, and Montgomery County Delegation to General Assembly – Governor's 1<sup>st</sup> Budget is expected o/a 21 January 2016 (one week after General Assembly convenes on 13 January)
  - Ongoing efforts to increase exemption (i.e., subtraction from taxable income) during CY 2016
  
3. Potential Benefits for Military Families in Maryland (sponsor, spouse, and children of active, reserve component, retired military personnel) and Veterans themselves) – a complicated matter with which to grapple
  - Transferability of GI Bill Benefits (Veterans Administration managed)—all 7 Services included now
  - The Current Problem for family members of (1) active duty, (2) reserve component, and (3) retired Uniformed Service personnel—in-state tuition rules/laws; public vs. private institutions
  - Dependents up to age 26 (full Federal medical coverage not yet for military family members >21 or 23)
  - Other Rules: Use VA benefits to qualify for in-state tuition; other Service education dollars and outside scholarships; Civil Schools Programs; Excess Leave educational arrangements (or the equivalent)
  
4. Transportation Issues (primarily related to Montgomery and Prince George's Counties)
  - Ongoing BRAC/Infrastructure issues (e.g., at WRNMMC and vicinity)
  - The Purple Line as a Solution for Veterans and two other groups in Montgomery County [bus loop example; Chevy Chase Land Company example; learning from experience]
  - Host installation and Government responsibilities to maximize benefits of contiguous projects—a subjective issue

Respectfully submitted:

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