

## Chapter 36

(Senate Bill 149)

AN ACT concerning

### State Government – Maryland Veterans Commission – Membership

FOR the purpose of altering the composition of the Maryland Veterans Commission by adding a ~~representative member~~ who is a veteran of certain conflicts ~~to serve on the Maryland Veterans Commission~~, and a certain honorary nonvoting member to serve on the Commission and removing a member of a certain organization from the ~~Maryland Veterans~~ Commission; making a stylistic change; and generally relating to the Maryland Veterans Commission.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – State Government  
Section 9–916  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – State Government  
Section 9–917  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

#### Article – State Government

9–916.

There is a Maryland Veterans Commission in the Department that shall advise the Secretary of all matters pertaining to veterans issues.

9–917.

(a) (1) The Commission consists of ~~28~~ THE FOLLOWING members appointed by the Governor.

(2) Of the members:

- (i) 1 shall be appointed from each of the 8 congressional districts in the State;
- (ii) 1 shall be a veteran appointed from the State at large;
- (iii) 1 shall be a woman veteran appointed from the State at large;
- (iv) 1 shall be a representative of a retired enlisted organization;
- [and]

**(V) 1 SHALL BE A VETERAN OF THE IRAQ OR AFGHANISTAN CONFLICT, AS DEFINED IN § 1-202(A-1) OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE; AND**

**[(v)] (VI) 1 shall be appointed from a list of individuals submitted to the Governor by each of the following organizations:**

1. the American Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc.;
2. the American Legion;
3. the Amvets;
4. the Catholic War Veterans;
5. the Disabled American Veterans;
6. the Fleet Reserve Association;
7. the Jewish War Veterans;
8. the Marine Corps League;
9. the Maryland Military Officers Association of America;
10. the Military Order of the Purple Heart;
- [11. the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association;]**
- [12.] 11. the Polish Legion of American Veterans;**
- [13.] 12. the Veterans of Foreign Wars;**
- [14.] 13. the Vietnam Veterans of America;**

- [15.] 14. the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.;
- [16.] 15. the Black Veterans of All Wars, Inc.; and
- [17.] 16. the Colonial Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America; AND

**(VII) 1 SHALL BE AN HONORARY NONVOTING MEMBER APPOINTED FROM A LIST OF INDIVIDUALS SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR BY THE PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION.**

- (b) Each member must be a resident of the State and a veteran.
- (c)
  - (1) The term of an appointed member is 5 years.
  - (2) The terms of the appointed members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Commission on October 1, 1984.
  - (3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.
  - (4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.
  - (5) When an organization is no longer a part of the Commission, the appointment shall terminate at the end of the current member's term.
- (d) A new organization may not be eligible for representation on the Commission, by appointment of the Governor, unless it is congressionally chartered.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2012.

**Approved by the Governor, April 10, 2012.**