HOUSE BILL 196

P1 5lr0110 (PRE-FILED) CF SB 254 By: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request -Departmental – Veterans and Military Families) Requested: September 29, 2024 Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025 Assigned to: Health and Government Operations Committee Report: Favorable House action: Adopted Read second time: February 4, 2025 CHAPTER AN ACT concerning State Government - Department of Veterans and Military Families - Board and Commission - Membership and Oversight FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Veterans and Military Families to provide oversight of the War Memorial Building; altering the membership of the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund Board of Trustees; altering the membership of the Maryland Veterans Commission; repealing the War Memorial Commission; and generally relating to the Department of Veterans and Military Families. BY repealing Article – State Government Section 9–932 through 9–939 and the part "Part IV. War Memorial Commission" Annotated Code of Maryland (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement) BY adding to Article – State Government Section 9-908.1 Annotated Code of Maryland (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement) BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

Article – State Government

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Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 2 3	Section 9–914, 9–914.1, and 9–917 Annotated Code of Maryland (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)						
4 5 6 7 8	BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, Article – State Government Section 9–915 Annotated Code of Maryland (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)						
9 10 11	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 9–932 through 9–939 and the part "Part IV. War Memorial Commission" of Article – State Government of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed.						
12 13	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:						
14	Article - State Government						
15	9–908.1.						
16 17	(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE OVERSIGHT OF THE WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.						
18 19	(B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT PROVIDE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING IN A MANNER THAT:						
20 21 22	(I) PERMITS THE GREATEST POSSIBLE USE OF THE BUILDING BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE AND BY PATRIOTIC ORGANIZATIONS IN THE STATE AND						
23 24	(II) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, PERMITS THE USE BY THE PATRIOTIC ORGANIZATIONS WITHOUT COST.						
25	(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENFORCE THE REGULATIONS.						
26 27 28 29	(C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY USE, FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE BUILDING, ANY FUNDS THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE APPROPRIATE FOR THOSE PURPOSES.						

THE STATE AND BALTIMORE CITY JOINTLY SHALL HOLD TITLE TO THE

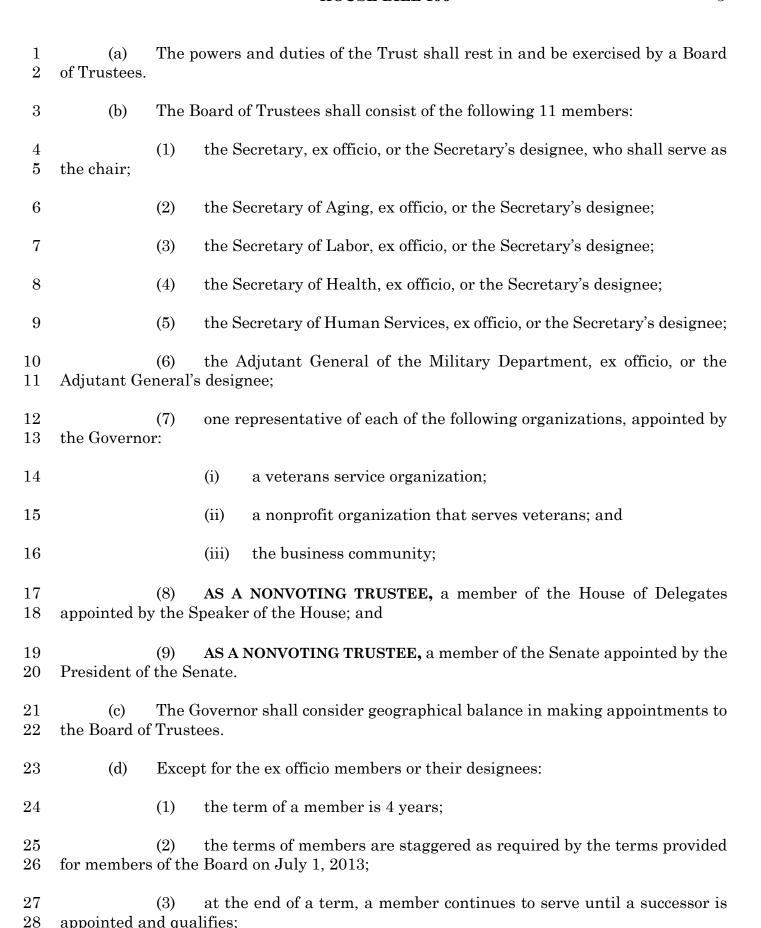
32 9–914.

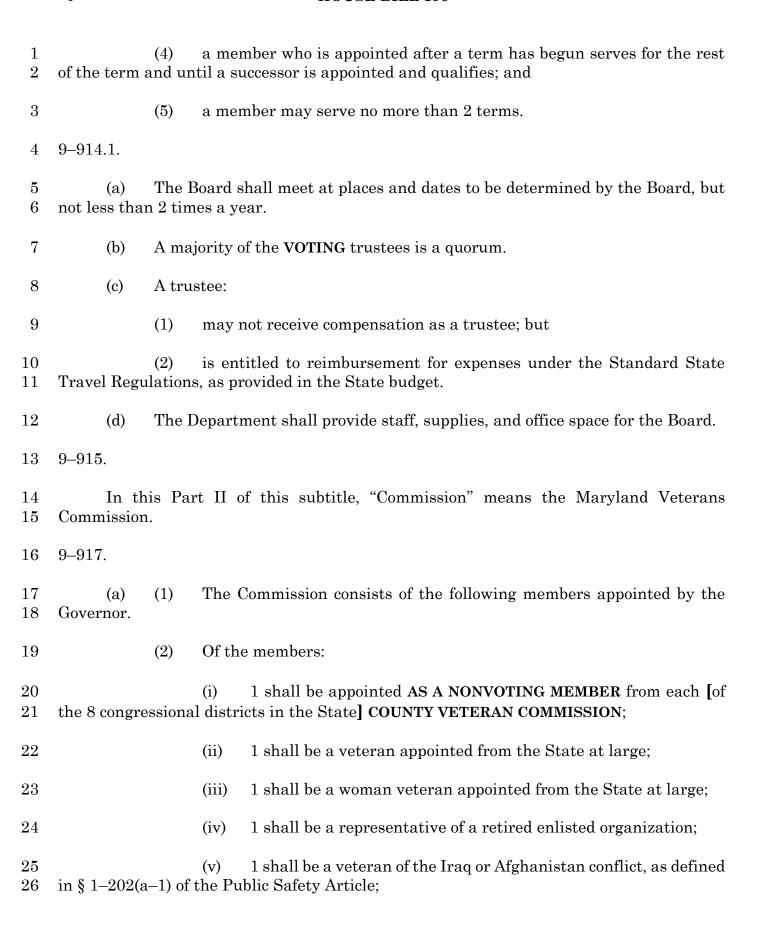
(D**)**

WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING AND THE MEMORIAL SITE.

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$\frac{1}{2}$	(vi) 1 shall be appointed from a list of individuals submitted to the Governor by each of the following organizations:				
3		[1.	the A	merican Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc.;]	
4		[2.] 1 .	the A	merican Legion;	
5		[3.] 2 .	the A	MVETS;	
6		[4.] 3. the Catholic War Veterans;			
7		[5.] 4. the Disabled American Veterans;			
8		[6.] 5 .	the F	leet Reserve Association;	
9		[7.] 6 .	the Je	ewish War Veterans;	
10		[8.] 7	the M	Iarine Corps League;	
11		[9.] 8	the M	Iaryland Military Officers Association of America;	
12		[10.]	9.	the Military Order of the Purple Heart;	
13		[11.	the P	olish Legion of American Veterans;]	
14		[12.]	10.	the Veterans of Foreign Wars;	
15		[13.]	11.	the Vietnam Veterans of America;	
16		[14.]	12.	the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.;	
17		[15.]	13.	the National Association for Black Veterans;	
18 19	America; and	[16.]	14.	the Colonial Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of	
20		[17.]	15.	the Reserve Organization of America; and	
21 22 23 24		to the	e Gove LAND	an honorary nonvoting member appointed from a list rnor by the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association] A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING S.	

Each member must be a resident of the State and a veteran.

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(b)

1	(c) (1) The term of an appointed member is 5 years.
2 3	(2) The terms of the appointed members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Commission on October 1, 1984.
4 5	(3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.
6 7	(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.
8 9	(5) (I) When an organization is no longer a part of the Commission, the appointment shall terminate at the end of the current member's term.
10 11 12	(II) AN ORGANIZATION'S REPRESENTATIVE SEAT MAY BE REMOVED IF THE ORGANIZATION FAILS TO APPOINT A NEW COMMISSIONER FOR 2 CONTINUOUS YEARS.
13 14 15	(6) AN ORGANIZATION MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE COMMISSION IF A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE ORGANIZATION IS NOT RECOMMENDED BY THAT ORGANIZATION.
16 17 18	(d) [A new organization may not be eligible for representation on the Commission, by appointment of the Governor, unless it is congressionally chartered] A MAJORITY OF THE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION IS A QUORUM.
19 20	SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2025.
	Approved:
	Governor.
	Speaker of the House of Delegates.
	President of the Senate.