



Bill No. 18-11

Concerning: Veterans Advisory Council

Introduced: March 6, 2018

Revised: April 17, 2018 Draft No. 1

Enacted: _____

Effective: _____

Expires: _____

Frederick County Code, Chapter 1-2, Title X
Sections 200-209

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council President Bud Otis, Council Vice President Keegan-Ayer, & Council Member Chmelik

AN ACT to: Establish a Veterans Advisory Council

Executive: _____ Date Received: _____

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Vetoed: _____ Date: _____

By adding:

Frederick County Code, Chapter 1-2 Section(s) 200-209

Other: _____

Boldface	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law.</i>
[Single boldface brackets strikethrough]	<i>Deleted from existing law.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets strikethrough]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
***	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

Bill No. **18-11**

The County Council of Frederick County, Maryland, finds it necessary and appropriate to establish a Veterans Advisory Council (VAC); provide for the composition, term, compensation of members, powers and duties of the VAC, and matters generally relating to the VAC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Frederick County Code be, and it is hereby, amended by adding new Article X to Chapter 1-2, as shown on the attached Exhibit 1.

Harold F. (Bud) Otis, President
County Council of Frederick County,
Maryland

CHAPTER 1-2: ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE X. VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

§1-2-200. Creation, Powers.

- (A) There shall be a Frederick County Veterans Advisory Council (VAC).
- (B) Among its powers and duties, the VAC shall:
 - 1) Collaborate with established military Veteran oriented service organizations to evaluate, develop and promote new and existing programs and services for Veterans and their families within Frederick County.
 - 2) Collaborate with other County Commissions, Boards and Councils, and County staff with regard to policies, programs, and concerns related to Veterans' interest.
 - 3) Collaborate with the County Executive and County Council to develop and promote programs and services in the State and County related to the needs of Veterans and their families.

§1-2-201. Composition.

- (A) Subject to confirmation by the County Council, the County Executive shall appoint up to seven (7) members to the VAC, all of whom shall be registered voters and residents of Frederick County, not less than four (4) of whom shall have been separated from military service by honorable discharge or under honorable conditions. ~~[[Preference extended to recently dis-charged combat Veterans and/or female Veterans.]]~~
- (B) Three (3) members may be non-veterans, who represent a variety of organizations that provide services to Veterans such as:
 - 1) A post-secondary educational institution; or
 - 2) A member of a Veterans' Service Organization.

§1-2-202. Ex-officio Non-voting advisory members.

- (A) A representative from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs, such as:
 - 1) Veterans Administration Vet Center;
 - 2) Veterans Administration – Veteran Experience Office; or
 - 3) Veterans Administration – Community Based Outpatient Clinic / Fort Detrick location.
- (B) The Director of the Frederick County Workforce Services, or the Director's designee.

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- (C) The Director of the Frederick County Health Department, Behavioral Health Services Division, or the Director's designee.
- (D) A Veteran Liaison from Frederick Memorial Hospital or one of its affiliates.
- (E) A member of the Frederick County Council.
- (F) A member of the Maryland General Assembly who represents Frederick County.
- (G) A representative from the office of a member of the U.S. Congress who represents Frederick County.

§1-2-203. Terms, Reappointments, Vacancies.

- (A) The term of office of each of the members shall be for a period of 2 years.
- (B) Of the initial 7 members, 3 shall be appointed for a one year term; and 4 shall be appointed for a 2 year term.
- (C) Members may be reappointed, but may not serve more than 3 full consecutive 2-year terms.
- (D) Vacancies shall be filled on the same basis as the original appointments for the unexpired terms. Members shall continue in office until their successors are appointed and qualified.
- (E) A VAC member may be removed by the County Executive for cause.

§1-2-204. Chair, Vice-Chair.

The Chair and Vice Chair will be selected by the members of the VAC.

§1-2-205. Meetings and quorum.

- (A) The VAC shall meet as frequently as determined by the VAC, but not less than quarterly. Meeting locations shall be determined by the VAC Chair and shall be in Frederick County, open to the public and ADA accessible.
- (B) Notice of the date, time, and place of the VAC meetings shall meet the requirements of the Maryland Open Meetings Act.
- (C) A majority of the VAC voting members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of regular business.
- (D) Any voting member of the VAC who fails to attend at least 50% of the meetings during any period of 12 consecutive months shall be considered to have resigned. Subject to confirmation by the County Council, the County Executive shall appoint a replacement.

§1-2-206. Rules and regulations.

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The VAC shall adopt rules to govern its procedures and activities.

§1-2-207. Compensation.

Members of the VAC shall receive no compensation for their services.

§1-2-208.

On or before July 1 of each year, the VAC shall provide a report to the County Executive and the County Council on its activities and progress in meeting its goals. The VAC shall post the report on the VAC website.

§1-2-209. County Staff.

A county staff member should be designated by the County Executive as a liaison to assist the VAC.

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