P1, O1 8lr2219 CF SB 53

By: Delegate Simonaire

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2018 Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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Maryland V	eterans Service	Animal Program	Fund – Altera	ation of Program
mai y lalia v		ammar i rogram	i i unu inici	thou of Figure

- FOR the purpose of authorizing a designee of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to administer the Maryland Veterans Service Animal Program Fund; requiring the Department of Veterans Affairs to publish the names of certain donors to the Maryland Veterans Service Animal Program Fund who have authorized the Department to publish their names; making a stylistic change; and generally relating to the Maryland Veterans Service Animal Program Fund.
- 9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 10 Article State Government
- 11 Section 9–957
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)
- 14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

## 16 Article - State Government

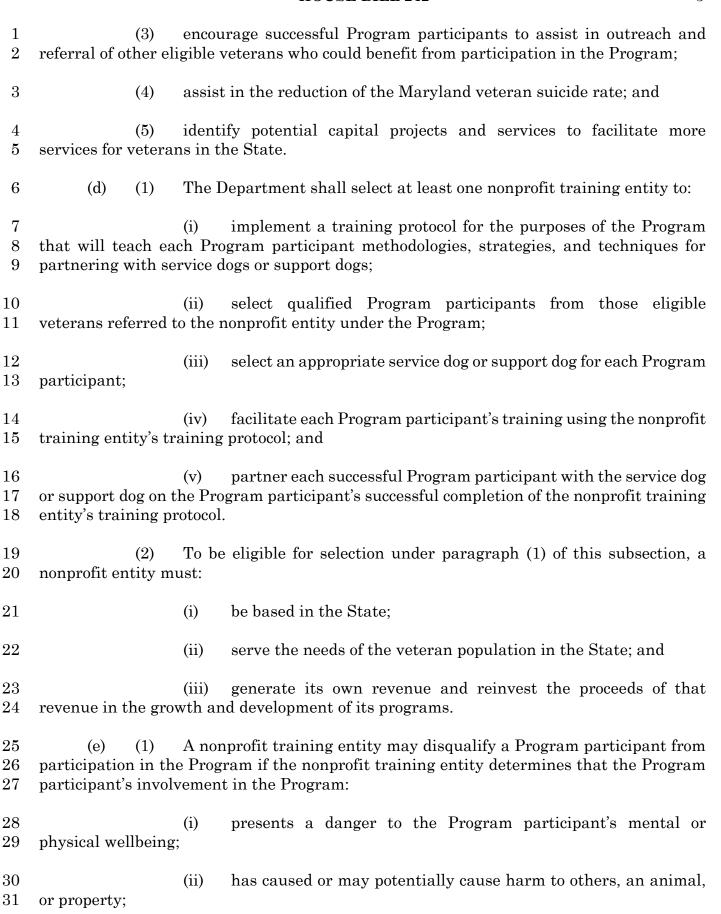
- 17 9–957.
- 18 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
- 19 (2) "Eligible veteran" means an individual who:
- 20 (i) served on active duty in:
- 21 1. the armed forces of the United States:
- 22 2. the National Guard; or

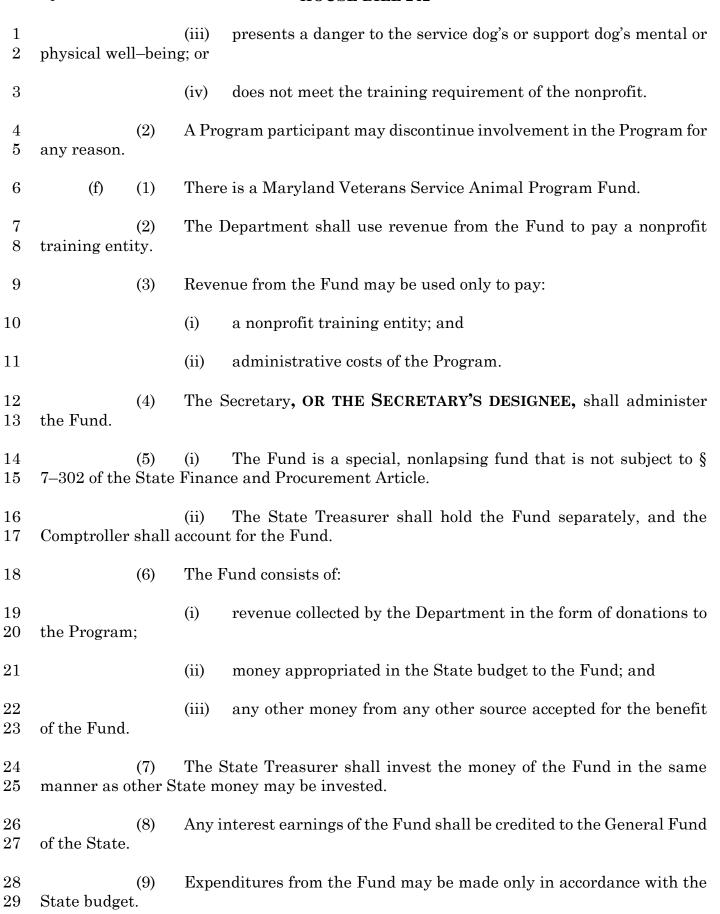


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in the Program;

$\frac{1}{2}$	States;		3.	a reserve	comp	onent o	f the ar	med	forces	of th	e Un	iited
3		(ii)	serve	ed in a capac	city ot	ther that	n for tra	ining	y;			
$\frac{4}{5}$	dishonorable; and	(iii)	was	discharged	or	released	d unde	r co	ndition	s oth	ner t	han
6		(iv)	1.	is a reside	nt of	the Stat	e; or					
7 8	Administration ho	spital i	2. in the	receives State.	treat	ment	or ca	re	from	a '	Veter	ans'
9 10	(3) "Fund" means the Maryland Veterans Service Animal Program Fund established under subsection (f) of this section.										'und	
11 12	(4) other legal entity t	_	profit	training ent	city" r	neans a	corpora	tion,	a foun	datio	n, or	any
13		(i)	is qu	alified unde	r § 50	1(c)(3) o	of the In	terna	ıl Rever	nue C	ode;	
14 15	veterans; and	(ii)	enga	ges in the tr	ainin	g of serv	rice dogs	or s	upport (	dogs f	or us	e by
16 17	this section.	(iii)	has k	oeen selected	d by t	the Depa	artment	to p	rovide	servic	es ur	ıder
18 19	(5) established under	_		means the	•	vland V	eterans	Serv	vice An	imal	Prog	ram
20 21	(6) the Program.	"Prog	ram p	participant"	mean	ıs an eli	gible ve	terai	n who j	partic	ipate	s in
22 23	(7) successfully compl			Program paning protoco		-		_	-	_		who
24	(b) There	e is a M	Iaryla	nd Veterans	s Serv	rice Anir	nal Prog	gram	in the l	Depar	rtmer	ıt.
25	(c) The p	urpose	es of th	ne Program a	are to	<b>:</b>						
26 27	(1) refer eligible veterans who inquire about participation in the Program to one or more nonprofit training entities;								ram			
28	(2)	provi	de add	itional fund	ing m	echanis	ms to as	sist v	veteran	s part	cicipa	ting





- 1 (10) Money expended from the Fund is supplemental to and is not intended 2 to take the place of funding that otherwise would be appropriated for the Program.
- 3 (g) (1) For the purpose of implementing this section, the Department may 4 accept gifts or grants for donation to the Fund.
- 5 (2) On or before October 1, 2018, and each October 1 thereafter, the Department shall post and maintain on its [Web site] WEBSITE a list [of the names of the persons who have] CONTAINING THE NAMES OF ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE donated to the Fund in the previous year and [have not requested anonymity] HAVE AUTHORIZED THE DEPARTMENT TO PUBLISH THEIR NAMES ON ITS WEBSITE.
- 10 (h) The Department shall adopt regulations to implement this section, including 11 regulations establishing procedures for the Department to:
- 12 (1) promote the Program to eligible veterans through the Department's outreach methods;
- 14 (2) refer eligible veterans to selected nonprofit entities;
- 15 (3) receive donations for the Fund through a link placed in a prominent location on the Department's [Web site] WEBSITE; and
- 17 (4) use revenue from the Fund to pay selected nonprofit entities for services 18 that are provided through the Program.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 20 October 1, 2018.