

General Services, for example, permit State troopers and DGS police officers to wear the U.S. flag pin. I understand and support the desire of State employees to wear symbols of our country's flag on their uniforms. However, I do not believe we need a law to codify a personnel policy which, in most agencies, already exists. As Governor, I will direct all executive branch agencies that have not already adopted such a policy, to do so.

For the above reason, I have vetoed House Bill 1205.

Sincerely,  
Parris N. Glendening  
Governor

### House Bill No. 1205

AN ACT concerning

#### Uniformed State Employees

FOR the purpose of allowing certain State employees to attach, ~~in an appropriate manner~~ in accordance with certain guidelines, a ~~patch~~ symbol of the United States flag on their uniforms; and generally relating to the uniforms of uniformed State employees.

BY adding to

Article - State Personnel and Pensions  
Section 2-308  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1997 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

#### Article - State Personnel and Pensions

2-308.

(A) A SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, A UNIFORMED STATE EMPLOYEE MAY ATTACH, IN AN APPROPRIATE MANNER, A PATCH A SYMBOL OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG TO THE EMPLOYEE'S UNIFORM.

(B) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, NOTHING IN THIS ARTICLE OR CORRESPONDING REGULATIONS MAY BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT A UNIFORMED STATE EMPLOYEE FROM ATTACHING A PATCH SYMBOL OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG TO THE EMPLOYEE'S UNIFORM.

(C) (1) A STATE AGENCY THAT EMPLOYS UNIFORMED STATE EMPLOYEES SHALL ESTABLISH GUIDELINES REGARDING THE WEARING OF SYMBOLS OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG.

(2) THE GUIDELINES MAY INCLUDE THE SIZE, LOCATION, AND FORM OF SYMBOL THAT MAY BE WORN.