

**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-2687

Area Code 301-967-4500

OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

HB629 (Higher Education – Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program – Surviving Spouses of Service Members)

SUPPORT

On behalf of the 600,000 active and retired members of the Upper Marlboro, Md.-based International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), I write in support of HB629, which would provide free college benefits for surviving spouses of service members.

As a proud U.S. Naval Air veteran, I know firsthand the importance our nation's veterans have to our nation. We've sacrificed much for the freedom of this great nation, and that should be honored with strong benefits for veterans and their families. This state legislation is a great benefit for aiding family of veterans. Education is so important for the growth and prosperity of our nation.

I am just one of the thousands of IAM members who have worn this nation's uniform. The IAM is always seeking ways to support policies that can improve the lives of veterans all over the U.S.

In Maryland alone, it's IAM members who work at facilities such as at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Naval Air Station Patuxent River and Joint Base Andrews. The IAM's roots run deep in Maryland and we truly support means that can help workers and families prosper and support the state's growth and success.

It is for these reasons the IAM supports HB629.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr.
IAM International President