

# Appropriations Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** HB-5430

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF MIGRAINE TREATMENT FOR WOMEN  
**Title:** AND VETERANS.

**Vote Date:** 4/4/2024

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 3/15/2024

**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

The Appropriations Committee

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

After insight was provided by several advocates of migraine awareness and research highlighting their affliction and the lack of helpful services available for chronic debilitating migraines, the proponents of the bill are seeking to conduct a study through the University of Connecticut (UConn) Health Center's Department of Neurology on migraine treatment relating to women and veterans. The bill also requires that a subsequent report be provided to the Appropriations and Public Health Committees to highlight areas of concern and explore additional legislative avenues if necessary.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None Expressed.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

[Anthony Nolan, State Representative](#) – Representative Nolan provided testimony in support of this bill, sharing that the Department of Veterans Affairs has reported that veterans are more likely to experience migraines than non-veterans. Additionally, Representative Nolan stated that veterans are frequently exposed to Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs) that can lead to chronic head pain, and that 63% of veterans exposed to sources of trauma have experienced migraines and headaches. Therefore, Representative Nolan urged the Committee to pass this bill in an effort to provide veterans the quality of life they deserve.

[Kate Mazzotta](#) – Ms. Mazzotta submitted testimony in support of the legislation drawing from her personal experience in her struggles with chronic migraines. Ms. Mazzotta provided personal details of her hardships associated with her migraines, including the debilitating nature of the pain she endures upon onset of a migraine, the various oral medication she is prescribed, monthly intravenous medication as well as Botox injections every three months. Ms. Mazzotta shared that despite the number of medical practitioners she has sought for diagnosis for the cause of the migraines, she has not been able to gain insight into the source. Ms. Mazzotta questions if the lack of explanation is reflective of the lack of research devoted to migraines. Ms. Mazzotta emphasized the importance of this research, particularly for women, who make up 75% of those who suffer from migraines, and veterans who are predisposed to TBIs. Ms. Mazzotta describes the varying nature of migraine experiences for women and veterans, and that the common nature of these afflictions speaks to the imperative nature of this research.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None Expressed.

**Reported by: Taylor Hyde**

**Date: 4/10/24**