

SESSION OF 2024

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2625

As Recommended by House Committee on
Veterans and Military

Brief*

HB 2625 would limit the documents and authentication procedures required to establish eligibility for any benefit derived from a service-connected disability.

Definitions (Section 1)

The bill would define the following terms:

- “Service-connected disability” would mean a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, air, or space service or death resulting from the disability; and
- “Veteran” would mean a person who served in the active military, naval, air, or space service and was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

The bill would prohibit state agencies and municipalities from requesting or demanding any document, with certain exceptions, or improvising an authentication procedure to determine eligibility for benefits derived from a service-connected disability suffered by a Kansas veteran.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

Exceptions to the Document Prohibition

The bill would allow state agencies and municipalities to request the following documents from a Kansas veteran:

- A United States passport;
- An unexpired REAL ID state driver's license;
- A veterans health identity card issued by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA);
- A veterans identification card issued by the VA;
- A common access card issued by the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD); or
- Any authorized DoD identity cards.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Veterans and Military at the request of Representative Thompson on behalf of Representative Dodson.

House Committee on Veterans and Military

In the House Committee hearing on February 6, 2024, Representative Thompson and a representative of the Military Officers Association provided **proponent** testimony. The proponents generally stated the bill would codify the proper documents required to establish a veteran's identify and reduce the administrative burden to service-connected disabled veterans and family members.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the American Legion.

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs Office and Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services state that enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.

Veterans; military; service-connected disability; relating to disabled veterans; eligibility