

Branden L. Jones

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Chairman Rep. Lonnie Clark
House Veterans & Military Committee
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, Kansas 66612

RE: HB2020 Application for VA state veterans home

Dear Sir:

It is with respect that I submit my support to your committee as a proponent for the bill regarding the building of a new veteran's home in northeast Kansas. Both my wife and I are veterans and have served in deployments in Germany and the middle-east. My deployments include tours in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

The veteran's home proposal is a much needed facility for those residents residing in the northeastern corridor of our state. There is currently no such facility in our area for those living where the greatest number of veterans live. The estimate is that over 50% of all eligible veterans in Kansas reside in the northeast Kansas area.

My family has a long history of military service going all of the way back to the Civil War. Now my grandfather has reached the age of 88 and we are facing issues on his future care. Walter L. Jones fought in combat in the Korean War with the US Army and earned numerous awards for his bravery, including ribbons for Pork Chop Hill. Upon return to the US he served several more years in the active reserves. He has lived his entire life in Leavenworth and Wyandotte Counties and he should be able to live out his life here when he is no longer able to care for himself.

The members of your committee are to be commended for taking action to give the veterans of this state the care and aid they deserve. Those that have given so much to protect this great nation deserve the best we can give them.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,


Branden L. Jones