



Proponent Testimony— March 12, 2024

HB 2829 / HB 2830 / HB 2831 / HB 2833

The Kansas Council of Chapters of Military Officers Association of America supports HB 2829, HB 2830, HB 2831, and HB 2833. All four of these bills are subjects previously heard before the committee and have been re-introduced under new bill numbers. We urge the Committee to debate and promptly vote to approve all of these bills. We request the support of every Representative.

RE: HB 2829-Please note that the updated definition of the armed forces to include the United States Space Force, established by federal law in 2019, is requested of all state legislatures by the Pentagon's Office of the Secretary of Defense. Respectfully suggest this fact-of-life bill be advanced to the House consent calendar.

The remaining bills will clarify definitions of veteran, service-connected veteran and related terms to align Kansas law with federal law. Such clarity will permit easier administration of Kansas laws that benefit our veterans of active military, naval, air, or space service.

We thank Chairman Ellis, Assistant Revisor Humes, and all Committee Members for support of these bills.

**Michael Kelly
State Legislative Chair
Kansas Council of Chapters
Military Officers Association of America**