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REVISOR of STATUTES

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MEMORANDUM

To: House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Committee

From: Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: 3/13/2024

Subject: HB 2745

HB 2745 provides an exemption from all occupational licensing or other credentialing fees for the spouses of active military servicemembers. The bill amends a current statute, K.S.A. 48-3406, that provides for expedited occupational licensing, certification and registration for military service members and for individuals who have established or intend to establish residency in Kansas. As amended by the House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development, the bill passed the House 119 to 0.

The heart of this bill is at pages 7-8, at new subsection (u). As introduced, this subsection provided that applicants who are military spouses of active military servicemembers are exempt from all fees assessed by any licensing body, to include application, licensing, registration or certification fees.

The House committee amended this provision to clarify and broaden the scope of the exemption. Added language exempted renewal, endorsement, reciprocity and any criminal background report fees, whether assessed by the licensing body or another agency. (Pg. 8.)

Licensing bodies are directed to adopt rules and regulations to implement the provision. (Pg. 8.)

Note that "licensing body" is defined in the current law as "an official, agency, board or other entity of the state that authorizes individuals to practice a profession in this state and issues a

license, registration, certificate, permit or other authorization to an individual so authorized.”
(Pg. 2.)

The bill as introduced also amended the definition of “complete application” to conform with the new fee exemption. (Pg. 2, lines 26-29.) The new language provides that an application by a military spouse of an active military servicemember is considered a "complete application" without the submission of fees as would otherwise be required. Receipt of a complete application by a licensing body is a requirement for the application of the expedited licensing provisions pursuant to current law.

Finally, the House committee amended the definition of “applicant” in the current law with respect to military servicemembers and their spouses by adding a requirement that the military servicemember or spouse resides or plans to reside in this state due to the assigned military station of the military servicemember or spouse. (Pg. 2, lines 11-13.)

If enacted, the bill would become effective July 1, 2024.