

HOUSE BILL No. 2086

By Committee on Veterans, Military and Homeland Security

1-26

9 AN ACT concerning veterans; relating to the veterans claims assistance
10 advisory board; board composition; amending K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 73-
11 1235 and repealing the existing section.
12

13 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

14 Section 1. K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 73-1235 is hereby amended to read as
15 follows: 73-1235. (a) There is hereby established with the Kansas com-
16 mission on veterans affairs an advisory board which shall be known as the
17 veterans claims assistance advisory board. The advisory board shall advise
18 the Kansas commission on veterans affairs in the implementation and
19 administration of the veterans claims assistance program.

20 (b) The advisory board shall consist of ~~six members as follows~~ *the*
21 *following members:*

22 (1) The director of the veterans claims assistance program, who shall
23 be a permanent member of the advisory board and shall serve as the
24 chairperson of the advisory board.

25 (2) ~~Three members of the advisory board shall be veterans represent-~~
26 ~~ing veterans service organizations~~ *Each veterans service organization partic-*
27 *ipating in the grant program shall appoint one member of the advisory*
28 *board who shall be a veteran.* The director shall notify the state level unit
29 of each national veterans service organization which has an office in the
30 federal department of veteran affairs regional office in Wichita, Kansas,
31 and request written confirmation of the intent of the veterans service
32 organization to participate in the veterans claims assistance program and
33 to request an annual service grant. Each such veterans service organiza-
34 tion submitting such confirmation *that also meets the eligibility require-*
35 *ments in K.S.A. 73-1234, and amendments thereto*, shall prepare and sub-
36 mit a list of three nominations of veterans from such veterans service
37 organization. The governor shall appoint one veteran as a member of the
38 advisory board from each list.

39 (3) Two legislators, one from each house, shall be appointed to the
40 advisory board with the speaker of the house of representatives and pres-
41 ident of the senate each appointing a member. One legislator shall be a
42 member of the democratic party and one legislator shall be a member of
43 the republican party.

1 (c) Within 90 days of the effective date of this act, the governor, the
2 speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate
3 shall appoint the initial members of the advisory board. Of the initial
4 appointments to the advisory board by the governor, one shall be for a
5 term of one year, one shall be for a term of two years and one shall be
6 for a term ending three years after the date of the initial appointment.
7 After the initial appointments, terms of office of the members appointed
8 by the governor shall be for three years. The term of office of each mem-
9 ber appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives or the pres-
10 ident of the senate shall end on the first day of the regular session of the
11 legislature which commences in the first odd-numbered year occurring
12 after the year such member was appointed.

13 (d) Each member of the advisory board, other than the director of
14 the veterans claims assistance program, shall serve until a successor is
15 appointed and qualified. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the membership
16 of the advisory board for any reason other than the expiration of a mem-
17 ber's term of office, the governor, the speaker of the house of represen-
18 tatives or president of the senate shall appoint a successor of like quali-
19 fications to fill the unexpired term in accordance with this section. In the
20 case of any vacancy occurring in the position of an advisory board member
21 who was appointed from a list of nominations submitted by a veterans
22 service organization, the governor shall notify that veterans service or-
23 ganization of the vacant position and request a list of three nominations
24 of veterans from which the governor shall appoint a successor to the
25 advisory board.

26 (e) Annually, the advisory board shall elect a vice-chairperson and
27 secretary from among its members and shall meet at least four times each
28 year at the call of the chairperson.

29 (f) The members of the advisory board attending meetings of the
30 advisory board or attending a subcommittee meeting thereof authorized
31 by the advisory board shall receive no compensation for their services but
32 shall be paid subsistence allowances, mileage and other expenses as pro-
33 vided in subsections (b), (c) and (d) of K.S.A. 75-3223 and amendments
34 thereto.

35 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 73-1235 is hereby repealed.

36 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
37 publication in the statute book.