

Approved: 2-11-93  
Date

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Lisa Benlon at 1:30 p.m. on February 9, 1993 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Clyde D. Graeber, Chairman, Excused  
Representative Robert Krehbiel, Excused  
Representative Rand Rock, Excused

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research Department  
Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department  
Mary Ann Torrence, Revisor of Statutes  
June Evans, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Bruce Larkin  
Charles M. Yunker, Department Adjutant, The American Legion  
Darrell Bencken, State Adjutant, Veterans of Foreign Wars

Others attending: See attached list

Vice-Chairperson Lisa Benlon opened the hearing on HB 2140.

Representative Bruce Larkin testified in support of HB 2140, an Act amending the Kansas civil service act; concerning veterans' preference. HB 2140 includes all veterans who have received a campaign badge or service medal.

Charles M. Yunker, Department Adjutant, The American Legion, testified in behalf of HB 2140, stating K.S.A. 75-2955 has required revisions to update the Kansas civil service act as it relates to veterans' preference as our nation became involved in wars. HB 2140 will eliminate the need for periodic updating and the bill will expand the methods in which a veteran may claim his or her veterans preference points on civil service examinations. (See Attachment #1)

Darrell Bencken, State Adjutant, Veterans of Foreign Wars, testified in support of HB 2140, stating the Veterans of Foreign Wars feels it important to include all service men and women that have served our country for veterans preference.

The hearing was closed on HB 2140.

Representative Sebelius moved and Representative Smith seconded to move HB 2140 out of committee favorably. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM. The next scheduled meeting will be February 10, 1993.



HOUSE BILL NO. 2140  
TESTIMONY BY CHARLES M. YUNKER, DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT  
THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS  
FEBRUARY 9, 1993

On behalf of the more than 60,000 members of The American Legion, Department of Kansas, I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to address you today in support of House Bill 2140.

Over the years K.S.A. 75-2955 has required revisions to update the Kansas civil service act as it relates to veterans' preferences as this nation became involved in more wars. HB 2140 would again update K.S.A. 75-2955 to include our most recent veterans. However HB 2140 takes a few more steps than the periodic updating I've just mentioned.

As proposed, HB 2140 will eliminate the need for periodic updating of K.S.A. 75-2955 due to future conflicts and wars which I hope our Nation can avoid; further it will expand the methods in which a veteran may claim his or her veterans preference points on civil service examinations by including verification of the issuance of a Purple Heart and/or military separation documentation which include a statement verifying service connected disability.

By expanding the methods a veteran may claim veterans preference points, veterans will no longer need to rely solely upon the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to provide the necessary documentation which can take several months, and in some cases, over a year to obtain those documents from the Department of Veterans Affairs. The American Legion believes <sup>HB 2140</sup> K.S.A. 75-2955 will go a long way in assisting veterans, especially those who will be discharged over the next several years with the downsizing of our military.

Again, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to address you today and to urge your support of HB 2140.

FISA  
2-9-93  
Aitch #1