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To:

House Committee on Veterans and Military

From:

Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date:

February 13, 2024

Subject:

HB 2759 - Modifying the definition of veteran and disabled veteran to create

a common definition for both terms; clarifying disability evaluations for benefits granted

to a disabled veteran

House Bill 2759 modifies the definition of "veteran" and "disabled veteran" to create a common definition for both terms throughout Kansas statutes. HB 2759 also clarifies disability evaluations for benefits granted to a disabled veteran.

The new definitions are:

- (1) "Disabled veteran" means a person who:
 - Served in the active military, naval, air or space service and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable;
 - received a disability that was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, air or space service; and
 - has a service-connected evaluation percentage equal to or greater than 50%, pursuant to 38 U.S.C. § 1101 et seq. or 10 U.S.C. § 1201 et seq.
- (2) "Veteran" means a person who served in the active military, naval, air or space service and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable.

Sections 2, 3 and 7 also include updates to documentation required to receive certain benefits. The documents now include a copy of the veteran's DD form 214, NGB form 22 or an equivalent discharge document that shows character of service as honorable or general under honorable conditions.

HB 27589 also contains technical amendments to bring such statutes up to date with current drafting practices.

House Bill 2759 would be enacted on July 1, 2024, upon publication in the statute book.