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Major General Michael T. Venerdi
The Adjutant General and Director of
Emergency Management & Homeland Security

Laura Kelly, Governor

February 4, 2025

Committee on Education
Kansas House of Representatives
Chairwoman Susan Estes
Attn: Michelle Sims, Committee Assistant
State Capitol, Room 218-N
300 SW 10th Ave
Topeka, KS 66612

Name: Lt. Col. Keith Marshall
Organization: The Adjutant General's Department
Contact: keith.marshall.1@us.af.mil, 785-646-0011
Bill: HB 2102, Advance Enrollment for Military Students
Position: Proponent
Type: In-person
Date: February 4, 2025

Dear Chairwoman Estes and Members of the Committee,

The Adjutant General's Department respectfully submits the following testimony for the hearing on House Bill 2102, Advance Enrollment for Military Students, on February 4, 2025. My legislative liaison, Lt. Col. Keith Marshall, will testify on my behalf.

The topic of this bill is a priority of the Department of Defense: to see states and school districts adopt laws and policies that allow the smoothest transition possible for military children when moving and beginning at a new school. As National Guardsmen, we typically don't move as frequently as our Active Duty counterparts, but our personnel do have to move on occasion. We stand in support of this bill for National Guard and all military families.

Enrolling military children in school at the earliest opportunity after relocating is crucial for their academic success, emotional well-being, and social adjustment. Frequent moves can disrupt their education, making it essential to minimize gaps in learning and ensure continuity in curriculum and skill development. Early enrollment allows students to establish routines, build relationships with peers and teachers, and access necessary support services, such as counseling or specialized programs for military families. It may be especially critical for upper classmen in high school so they can enroll in the specific courses they need to graduate. Additionally, it helps ease the transition by providing a sense of stability and normalcy in an otherwise constantly changing environment. By

prioritizing prompt school enrollment, military families can better support their children's educational and personal growth despite the challenges of relocation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter. You are always welcome to reach out to me if you need anything. You may also contact my legislative liaison, Lt. Col. Keith Marshall, at 785-646-0011 or keith.marshall.1@us.af.mil.

MICHAEL T. VENERDI
Major General, Kansas National Guard
The Adjutant General