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

Laura Kelly, Governor

February 13, 2025

Committee on Veterans and Military
Kansas House of Representatives
Chairman Mike Thompson
Attn: Debra Heideman, Committee Assistant
State Capitol, Room 281-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 2274, Removing the Active Requirement for Occupational Licensure
Position: Proponent
Type: In-Person
Date: February 13, 2025

Dear Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee,

The Adjutant General's Department respectfully submits the following written testimony for the hearing on House Bill 2274, Removing the Active Requirement for Occupational Licensure, on February 13, 2025. My Legislative Liaison, Lt. Col. Keith Marshall, will testify on my behalf.

We appreciate the Legislature's attention to a small nuance that makes a big difference for our National Guard members and their families – the word “active” in state law in reference to military service. This word is commonly used to refer to any member of the U.S. military, but in actuality it limits the scope to Active Duty members and excludes currently serving National Guard and Reserve members. This bill corrects that small oversight and allows families of our Kansas National Guard members to be included.

While National Guard members typically do not move as frequently as our Active Duty counterparts, our members do move on occasion, which puts a strain on families and the career opportunities for spouses. The financial burden of reapplying for licenses, meeting varying state requirements, and covering associated fees can create significant barriers to employment, impacting family stability and economic well-being. Given that many military spouses work in licensed professions such as healthcare, education, and law, streamlining and reducing the cost of license transfers ensures continuity in their careers and minimizes periods of unemployment. Policies that promote reciprocity, temporary licensing, or fee waivers recognize the sacrifices of military families and help mitigate the

financial strain of military moves. Making license transfers more affordable not only supports military spouses but also strengthens the overall resilience of military families.

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