



House Bill 2214
Written Opponent Testimony

January 30, 2026

Michael Kelly

President

Kansas Council of Chapters, MOAA

- **Chairman James and Members of the Committee, I respectfully stand in opposition to HB 2214 and intend to present verbal testimony on Tuesday February 2, 2026 if recognized by the Chair.**
- **With regard to veterans, this bill would authorize for-profit claims assistance services for veterans and survivors contrary to federal law. Please refer to 38 U.S.C. § 5901 et seq.**
- **Nothing except their preference to monetize benefits due to veterans and survivors prevents for-profit actors from seeking VA accreditation so they can assist veterans within the existing provisions of federal law. VA accreditation regulations are posted at 38 C.F.R. § 14.626 et seq.**
- **According to the September 9, 2025 California Senate Judiciary Committee analysis: “For decades, federal law penalized unaccredited actors who charged veterans for “preparing, presenting, or prosecuting claims before the VA.” While regulations still prohibit such behavior, all criminal penalties were removed from federal statutes in 2006, leaving the VA essentially toothless to go after bad actors.” Further, “These unaccredited companies and representatives are not subject to the accountability measures laid out in federal law or the oversight of the VA.”**

[url: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billAnalysisClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB694]

- The Kansas Consumer Protection Act permits private lawsuit remedies if a veteran alleges unlawful practices of a for-profit claims assistance service. HB 2214 section 1.(c)(2) would remove private remedies and reserve standing for bringing such actions before a court to the Attorney General. This is an unwelcome reduction in the consumer rights of veterans. No Kansas law should reduce the consumer protection of veterans .
- A provision of the Kansas Consumer Protection Act (K.S.A.50-625) states: “A consumer may not waive or agree to forego rights or benefits under this act.” HB 2214 explicitly permits veterans to waive their rights. No Kansas law should reduce the consumer protection of veterans .
- K.S.A. 50-627 refers to unconscionable acts and practices. Among these are taking advantage of a consumer with a physical infirmity or ignorance. HB 2214 would permit such unconscionable acts and reduce the consumer protection of veterans and their survivors. No Kansas law should reduce the consumer protection of veterans.
- K.S.A. 50-627 (b)(2) prohibits grossly excessive pricing. Because Kansas veterans or their survivors can obtain claims assistance at no charge to the claimant, HB 2214 would permit contract agreements with grossly excessive pricing from for-profit claims assistance services and reduce the consumer protection of veterans and their survivors. No Kansas law should reduce the consumer protection of veterans.
- I strongly urge the committee to oppose this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Kelly