



Tuesday February 10, 2026

House Bill 2732

Proponent Testimony – Mike Kelly

President, Kansas Council of Chapters, MOAA

Chairman James and Members of the Committee,

MOAA's Kansas Council of Chapters supports HB 2732.

A substantial benefit due to survivors of deceased service-connected veterans is known as Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.

If a service member dies on active duty or a veteran dies of their service-connected condition then the survivor is due DIC. The DIC rate this year is \$1,700 per month, tax-free.

This bill would raise the awareness of this benefit with cause of death certifiers. The key document for DIC claims is the death certificate. Federal policy is contained in the *Physicians Handbook on the Medical Certification of Death, 2023*. Key statements therein include

“it is important for the certifier to provide as detailed information as possible because information that is more specific is of greater utility”

“The physician’s principal responsibility in death registration is to complete the medical part of the death certificate. In this role of medical certifier, the physician performs the final act of patient care. The physician provides closure **with a complete and accurate death certificate that will allow the family to close the decedent’s affairs.”**

This bill will assist survivors to obtain a complete and accurate death certificate. The will result in more approved DIC claims and a better safety net for survivors.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Kelly

**President and State Legislative Lead
Kansas Council of Chapters
MOAA**