

As Amended by House Committee

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*Session of 2025*

**HOUSE BILL No. 2243**

By Committee on Judiciary

Requested by Representative Proctor on behalf of Michelle Richart

2-4

1 AN ACT concerning children and minors; relating to children in need of  
2 care; creating a referral process to a ~~military family advocacy program~~  
3 for cases involving children of military personnel **to provide families**  
4 **with services that a military family advocacy program offers;**  
5 requiring the secretary for children and families to enter into a  
6 memorandum of understanding with military—installations—  
7 **organizations;** amending K.S.A. 38-2230 and repealing the existing  
8 section.  
9

10 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

11 New Section 1. (a) When the secretary for children and families  
12 makes a ~~preliminary~~ **an** investigation pursuant to K.S.A. 38-2230, and  
13 amendments thereto, and the child who is the subject of the investigation  
14 has a parent or legal guardian who is a military personnel ~~at a military~~  
15 ~~installation~~, the secretary shall make a referral to ~~a~~ **military family**  
16 **advocacy program** **the appropriate military organization** to provide the  
17 family with services that ~~such a~~ **military advocacy** program offers.

18 (b) The secretary shall enter into a memorandum of understanding  
19 with ~~a~~ **military family advocacy program** ~~at each~~ **military installation in**  
20 **Kansas** **the following military organizations** for the purpose of referring  
21 cases involving children with a parent or legal guardian who is a military  
22 personnel ~~at a~~ **military installation** ~~to such to a~~ **military family advocacy**  
23 **program** **for services:** **United States Army Garrison, Fort Riley;**  
24 **McConnell Air Force Base;** **United States Army Garrison, Fort**  
25 **Leavenworth, including Munson Army Health Center; and the Kansas**  
26 **National Guard.** The memorandum of understanding shall include:

27 (1) A method for identifying whether a child has a parent or legal  
28 guardian who is a military personnel ~~at a~~ **military installation;**

29 (2) the process for referring identified cases to the military family  
30 advocacy program;

31 (3) a requirement that the secretary notify the military family  
32 advocacy program when the secretary has referred a case involving a child  
33 with a parent or legal guardian who is a military personnel to the county or  
34 district attorney for the purpose of filing a petition pursuant to K.S.A. 38-  
35 2233, and amendments thereto; and

1       (4) provisions that require compliance with confidentiality  
2 requirements in state and federal law.

3       (c) Nothing in this section shall prevent the secretary for children and  
4 families from taking action to protect the health and welfare of the child as  
5 necessary, including recommending to the county or district attorney that a  
6 petition be filed pursuant to K.S.A. 38-2233, and amendments thereto.

7       (d) As used in this section, "military family advocacy program"  
8 means a program established by the United States department of defense  
9 and provided at a military installation to address child abuse and neglect in  
10 military families.

11       (e) This section shall be a part of and supplemental to the revised  
12 Kansas code for care of children.

13       Sec. 2. K.S.A. 38-2230 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-  
14 2230. Whenever any person furnishes information to the secretary that a  
15 child appears to be a child in need of care, the department shall make a  
16 preliminary inquiry to determine whether the interests of the child require  
17 further action be taken. Whenever practicable, the inquiry shall include a  
18 preliminary investigation of the circumstances which were the subject of  
19 the information, including the home and environmental situation ~~and~~, the  
20 previous history of the child *and the military status of a parent or legal*  
21 *guardian of the child pursuant to section 1, and amendments thereto.* If  
22 reasonable grounds to believe abuse or neglect exist, immediate steps shall  
23 be taken to protect the health and welfare of the abused or neglected child  
24 as well as that of any other child under the same care who may be harmed  
25 by abuse or neglect. After the inquiry, if the secretary determines it is not  
26 otherwise possible to provide those services necessary to protect the  
27 interests of the child, the secretary shall recommend to the county or  
28 district attorney that a petition be filed.

29       Sec. 3. K.S.A. 38-2230 is hereby repealed.

30       Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
31 publication in the statute book.