

HOUSE BILL No. 2767

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

Requested by Representative Willcott on behalf of Representative Croft

2-10

1 AN ACT concerning veterans and military; relating to commissions;
2 establishing the Kansas military affairs commission; prescribing the
3 powers and duties thereof.
4

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

6 Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the Kansas military affairs
7 commission. Such commission shall be advisory to the governor and shall
8 be within and a part of the office of the governor.

9 (b) The governor's military council shall be and is hereby officially
10 designated as the Kansas military affairs commission.

11 (1) On and after July 1, 2026, whenever the governor's military
12 council or words of like effect is referred to or designated by statute,
13 contract or other document, such reference or designation shall mean and
14 apply to the Kansas military affairs commission.

15 (2) The Kansas military affairs commission shall be a continuation of
16 the governor's military council.

17 (c) The Kansas military affairs commission shall consist of 13 voting
18 members. The membership of the commission shall be composed of:

19 (1) The governor, who shall serve as chair of the commission, or the
20 governor's designee;

21 (2) the adjutant general of the state of Kansas;

22 (3) the president of the senate or the president's designee;

23 (4) the speaker of the house or the speaker's designee;

24 (5) the Kansas secretary of commerce;

25 (6) the executive director of the Kansas office of veterans services;

26 (7) three representatives from municipalities that have military
27 installations, as appointed by the governor;

28 (8) one active duty military spouse, either from the army or the air
29 force, as appointed by the governor; and

30 (9) three qualified individuals with extensive military experience or
31 expertise, as appointed by the governor.

32 (d) If an appointment cannot be made within 60 days after a seat
33 becomes vacant, the governor may appoint any qualified person.

34 (e) Members appointed to the military affairs commission shall serve
35 three-year terms until reappointed or replaced. A person appointed to fill a

1 vacancy that occurs prior to the expiration of a term shall be appointed for
2 the remainder of the unexpired term.

3 (f) The commission shall also have 11 non-voting ex officio members
4 appointed by the following:

5 (1) One member from each of the military installations in Kansas,
6 including Fort Leavenworth, McConnell air force base, Fort Riley and the
7 United States coast guard pay and personnel center;

8 (2) one member from each state educational institution, as defined in
9 K.S.A. 76-711, and amendments thereto; and

10 (3) one member from the Kansas fusion center.

11 (e) The Kansas military affairs commission shall meet quarterly and
12 may meet on a day and time determined by the chair.

13 (1) A majority of voting members of the commission constitutes a
14 quorum for the purposes of conducting business and exercising the powers
15 of the commission.

16 (2) Members of the commission shall be paid amounts pursuant to
17 K.S.A. 75-3223(e), and amendments thereto.

18 (g) The governor shall appoint an executive director of the Kansas
19 military affairs commission, and such commission shall designate the
20 duties of the executive director. The executive director shall be the
21 administrative officer of the commission and shall serve the commission
22 by fostering cooperation between the installations and private and public
23 sectors, forwarding proposals and evaluations to the governor, the
24 legislature and various state agencies, pursuing initiatives to enhance the
25 quality of life for all military personnel, both active and retired, and
26 performing other duties necessary for the proper operation of the
27 commission.

28 (h) The commission shall have the following functions, powers and
29 duties:

30 (1) Provide advice, counsel and actionable recommendations on
31 military-affiliated issues and economic and industrial development related
32 to the military to the governor, state and federal agencies, the legislature,
33 communities and the state's congressional delegation;

34 (2) provide sound, accurate and viable recommendations to expand
35 and grow the current presence of the armed forces in the state, including
36 expanded missions and infrastructure;

37 (3) plan and support state infrastructure needed to support military
38 objectives;

39 (4) recommend methods to improve private and public employment
40 opportunities and quality of life for the families of current and former
41 members of the military that reside in Kansas;

42 (5) provide assistance to enable enhanced design and execution of
43 community programs that strengthen relations between communities and

1 the military installations to include defense-related business;

2 (6) serve as an advocate for the state of Kansas in matters related to
3 United States department of defense expansion decisions;

4 (7) build community support for the armed services and prepare and
5 maintain a strategic action plan that protects existing military missions in
6 Kansas and positions the state to be competitive for new and increasing
7 military missions; and

8 (8) promote the long-term viability and prosperity of the military and
9 defense-related industries in Kansas and protect against all current and
10 anticipated realignments and closures proposed by the United States
11 department of defense that affects Kansas.

12 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
13 publication in the statute book.