

**{As Amended by House Committee of the Whole}**

*Session of 2026*

**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 ~~43~~ **{15}**  
18 voting members. The membership of the commission shall be composed  
19 of:

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

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

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

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

25 (5) ~~the minority leader of the senate or the minority leader's~~  
26 **designee;**

27 (6) ~~the minority leader of the house or the minority leader's~~  
28 **designee;**

29 (7) the Kansas secretary of commerce;

30 ~~(6)}~~**{8}** the executive director of the Kansas office of veterans  
31 services;

32 ~~(7)}~~**{9}** three representatives from municipalities that have military  
33 installations, as appointed by the governor;

34 ~~(8)}~~**{10}** one active duty military spouse, either from the army or the  
35 air force, as appointed by the governor; and

1       ~~(9)~~**(11)** three qualified individuals with extensive military  
2 experience or expertise, as appointed by the governor.

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

5       (e) Members appointed to the military affairs commission shall serve  
6 three-year terms until reappointed or replaced. A person appointed to fill a  
7 vacancy that occurs prior to the expiration of a term shall be appointed for  
8 the remainder of the unexpired term.

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

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

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

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

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

19       (1) A majority of voting members of the commission constitutes a  
20 quorum for the purposes of conducting business and exercising the powers  
21 of the commission.

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

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

34       (h) The commission shall have the following functions, powers and  
35 duties:

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

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

43       (3) plan and support state infrastructure needed to support military

1 objectives;

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

5 (5) provide assistance to enable enhanced design and execution of  
6 community programs that strengthen relations between communities and  
7 the military installations to include defense-related business;

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

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

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

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