

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2627

As Amended by House Committee on Veterans
and Military

Brief*

HB 2627, as amended, would expand the permissive hiring preference in private employment to include current Kansas National Guard members, current reserve forces members, and eligible spouses of military servicemembers.

Under current law, a private employer may adopt an employment policy that gives preference in hiring to a veteran provided that the veteran meets the requirements of the vacant position, otherwise known as permissive preference.

The bill would add servicemembers and eligible spouses, both as defined by the bill, to those persons who are given preference in hiring under permissive preference.

Servicemembers

The bill would add a definition of “servicemember” for purposes of permissive preference to include an individual who resides in Kansas, is stationed in Kansas, and is:

- A current member in good standing of the U.S. Army or Air National Guard; or
- A current member of a unit of the reserve forces of the U.S. military.

The bill would require a servicemember to submit evidence of current military membership in good standing and

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <https://klrd.gov/>

duty station in Kansas to be establish eligibility for permissive preference.

Eligible Spouses

The bill would add a definition of “eligible spouse” for purposes of permissive preference to mean an individual who is married to a servicemember or an active duty member of the U.S. military who resides in and is stationed in Kansas.

The bill would require an eligible spouse to submit proof of marriage and proof of living in Kansas to establish eligibility for permissive preference.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Veterans and Military at the request of a representative of the Adjutant General’s Department.

House Committee on Veterans and Military

In the House Committee hearing, representatives of the Adjutant General’s Department, the Military Officers Association of America, and the U.S. Department of Defense provided **proponent** testimony. Proponents stated the bill would expand employment opportunities for Kansas National Guard members, reserve members, and military spouses, thereby improving recruitment and retention in the state.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to:

- Require a servicemember to submit evidence, rather than certification, of current military membership in good standing and duty station in Kansas; and

- Require an eligible spouse to submit proof of marriage and proof of living in Kansas rather than requiring such spouse to submit proof of marriage, certification of the spouse's military membership and duty station in Kansas, signed by a unit commander, and proof of residency in Kansas.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill as introduced, the Adjutant General's Department and the Kansas Office of Veterans Services both state that enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.

Veterans and military; permissive preference; employment; private employer; spouse