

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2767

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2767, as amended, would establish the Kansas Military Affairs Commission (Commission) within the Office of the Governor. The Commission would be a continuation of the Governor's Military Council.

The bill would designate the Governor's Military Council as the Commission, and on and after July 1, 2026, whenever the Governor's Military Council is referred to or designated by statute, contract, or other document, such reference or designation would mean and apply to the Commission.

Membership

Voting Members

The Commission would consist of 15 voting members, as follows:

- The Governor, or Governor's designee, who would serve as chair of the Commission;
- The Adjutant General;
- The Senate President or President's designee;
- The Senate Minority Leader or Minority Leader's designee;

*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/>

- The Speaker of the House or Speaker's designee;
- The House Minority Leader or Minority Leader's designee;
- The Secretary of Commerce;
- The Executive Director of the Kansas Office of Veterans Services;
- Three representatives from municipalities that have military installations, as appointed by the Governor;
- One active-duty military spouse from the Army or the Air Force, as appointed by the Governor; and
- Three qualified individuals with extensive military experience or expertise, as appointed by the Governor.

Non-voting Members

The Commission would also have 11 non-voting *ex officio* members appointed by the following:

- One member each from Fort Leavenworth, Fort Riley, McConnell Air Force Base, and the United States Coast Guard Pay and Personnel Center;
- One member each from the University of Kansas, Kansas State University, Wichita State University, Emporia State University, Pittsburg State University, and Fort Hays State University; and
- One member from the Kansas Fusion Center.

Vacancies; Terms; Compensation

The bill would provide if an appointment cannot be made within 60 days after a seat on the Commission becomes vacant, the Governor could appoint any qualified person.

Members would serve three-year terms until reappointed or replaced, and a person appointed to a vacancy that occurs prior to the expiration of a term would be appointed for the remainder of the unexpired term. Members would be paid amounts pursuant to continuing law governing compensation to members of a board.

Meetings; Quorum

The Commission would meet quarterly on a day and time determined by the Chair. A majority of the voting members of the Commission would constitute a quorum for the purposes of conducting business and exercising the powers of the Commission.

Executive Director

The bill would require the Governor to appoint an Executive Director of the Commission, whose duties would be designated by the Commission. The Executive Director would be the administrative officer of the Commission and would be required to serve the Commission by:

- Fostering cooperation between the installations and private and public sectors;
- Forwarding proposals and evaluations to the Governor, the Legislature, and various state agencies;
- Pursuing initiatives to enhance the quality of life for all military personnel, both active and retired; and

- Performing other duties as necessary for the proper operation of the Commission.

Commission Functions, Powers, and Duties

The Commission would have the following functions, powers, and duties:

- Provide advice, counsel, and actionable recommendations on military-affiliated issues and economic and industrial development related to the military to the Governor, state and federal agencies, the Legislature, communities, and the state's congressional delegation;
- Provide sound, accurate, and viable recommendations to expand and grow the current presence of the armed forces in the state, including expanded missions and infrastructure;
- Plan and support state infrastructure needed to support military objectives;
- Recommend methods to improve private and public employment opportunities and quality of life for the families of current and former members of the military that reside in Kansas;
- Provide assistance to enable enhanced design and execution of community programs that strengthen relations between communities and the military installations to include defense-related business;
- Serve as an advocate for the State in matters related to U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) expansion decisions;
- Build community support for the armed services and prepare and maintain a strategic action plan that protects existing military missions in Kansas

and positions the state to be competitive for new and increasing military missions; and

- Promote the long-term viability and prosperity of the military and defense-related industries in Kansas and protect against all current and anticipated realignments and closures proposed by the DoD that affect Kansas.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of Representative Willcott on behalf of Representative Croft.

House Committee on Veterans and Military

In the House Committee hearing, the Executive Director of the Governor's Military Council and a representative of the Adjutant General's Department provided **proponent** testimony on the bill. Proponents generally stated the bill would codify the current functions of the Governor's Military Council that was originally established and continued by Executive Order.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by two members of the Governor's Military Council and a representative of the DoD.

No other testimony was provided.

House Committee of the Whole

The House Committee of the Whole amended the bill to add the Senate Minority Leader and House Minority Leader to the list of voting members of the Commission.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, The Office of the Governor indicates that enactment of the bill would require additional expenditures totaling \$152,000 from the State General Fund in FY 2027. This estimate includes 1.00 Executive Director at a cost of \$142,000 (including fringe benefits). In addition, the members of the Commission would require compensation, subsistence allowances, and other allowable expenses totaling \$10,000 from the State General Fund. For FY 2028, using an inflation rate of 5.0 percent, total expenditures of \$159,600 from the State General Fund would be required. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

Veterans and Military; Kansas Military Affairs Commission