

HOUSE BILL No. 2662

By Committee on Veterans, Military and Homeland Security

1-23

9 AN ACT relating to vouchers for tuition and required fees at certain
10 institutions of higher education and excused absences from public
11 school for students who sound “Taps” at a veteran’s funeral.
12

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

14 Section 1. (a) As used in this act:

15 (1) “Commission” means the Kansas commission on veterans affairs;
16 and

17 (2) “postsecondary educational institution” shall have the meaning
18 ascribed thereto pursuant to K.S.A. 74-3201b, and amendments thereto.

19 (b) The commission shall establish a program to issue vouchers to be
20 exchanged for an exemption from the payment of tuition and required
21 fees at a postsecondary educational institution to students in grades six
22 through 12 or at a postsecondary educational institution who sound
23 “Taps” on a bugle, trumpet or cornet during military honors funerals held
24 in this state for deceased veterans. A voucher must be issued in the
25 amount of \$25 for each time a student sounds “Taps” as described by
26 this subsection.

27 (c) The commission by rule and regulation shall design a form for the
28 vouchers and distribute the form, with an explanation of the form’s use,
29 to each funeral director in this state for issuance to a person who is eligible
30 to receive a voucher under this section. The commission may not charge
31 a fee for distribution of the form.

32 (d) The commission shall encourage a private or independent insti-
33 tution of higher education to grant a tuition and fee exemption in
34 exchange for a voucher.

35 (e) A voucher issued under this section may be used by the student
36 at any time and is not transferable.

37 Sec. 2. A school district may excuse a student in grades six through
38 12 for the purpose of sounding “Taps” at a military honors funeral held
39 in this state for a deceased veteran. A student whose absence is excused
40 under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence. A student
41 whose absence is excused under this section shall be allowed a reasonable
42 time to make up school work missed on those days.

43 Sec. 3. The governing board of each postsecondary educational in-

1 stitution shall provide a \$25 exemption from tuition and required fees to
2 a student in exchange for a voucher issued to the student under section
3 1 of this act that is presented by the student to the institution.
4 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
5 publication in the statute book.