



**HB 2213 Proponent Testimony
Michael Kelly
Kansas Council of Chapters
Military Officers Association of America**

The Kansas Council of Chapters of MOAA supports passage of HB 2213. A provision of Kansas consumer protection law (KSA 50-676) lists six types of protected consumers:

- (1) An elder person;
- (2) a disabled person;
- (3) a veteran;
- (4) the surviving spouse of a veteran;
- (5) a member of the armed forces; and
- (6) an immediate family member of a member of the armed forces.

Kansas further provides appropriated funds to operate the Kansas Office of Veterans Services and funds the Veterans Claim Assistance Program, currently through the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars under KSA 73-1234. These organizations are not for profit entities and are mandated to prosecute all claims to the federal Department of Veterans Administration with an accredited representative. Their long history of service is entirely consistent with Kansas Consumer Protection Law.

It is not clear that for profit entities can comply with the VA statement “no one can charge a claimant for preparing or filing an application for benefits with the VA without violating the law.”

The VA warns “perpetrators of pension poaching scams can present themselves in many professions, including attorneys and financial planners.” Any true professional should welcome the provisions of HB 2213 and support the rule of law, in particular the Kansas Consumer Protection Laws in 50-623 et seq. I urge passage of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Kelly

**State Legislative Lead
Kansas Council of Chapters
Military Officers Association of America**