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MEMORANDUM

To: House Committee on Veterans and Military
From: The Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: February 6, 2025
Subject: HB 2213 - Prohibiting certain conduct and improper collection of veterans benefits fees

HB 2213, as introduced, would prohibit certain conduct and improper collection of veterans benefits fees.

Subsection (a) provides definitions for the term “veterans benefits matter”.

Subsection (b) states that, except as permitted under federal law, no person shall receive compensation for preparing, presenting, prosecuting, advising, consulting or assisting any individual with regard to any veterans benefits matter before the United States department of veterans affairs, the United States department of defense or the Kansas office of veterans services.

Subsection (c) also prohibits compensation for referring an individual to another person for the activities mentioned in subsection (b).

Subsection (d) provides that nothing in the bill prohibits a division of fees between attorneys that is otherwise proper under Kansas law.

Subsection (e) states that a violation of this act shall be a violation of the Kansas consumer protection act.

Subsection (f) provides that any person who receives compensation for the activities mentioned in subsection (b) shall be held to the same ethical standards as an attorney under the Kansas rules of professional conduct.

Subsection (g) is a severability clause that states if any provision of the act is held invalid, such invalidity will not affect the other provisions of this act.

HB 2213 would take effect after its publication in the Kansas register.