

SESSION OF 2013

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 136

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

SB 136 would allow a veteran to have "VETERAN" printed on a state-issued driver's license or non-driver identification card. The bill would define veteran "as someone who served in the military and was honorably discharged or generally discharged under honorable conditions." The bill would require that a veteran provide proof of military service and discharge by presenting a form DD214 or an equivalent form. The bill would allow the Secretary of Revenue to provide names and addresses from motor vehicle records to the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs for the purposes of assisting that commission in notifying veterans of the facilities, benefits, and services available to veterans in the State of Kansas.

The bill would take effect July 1, 2014.

Background

The bill was introduced at the request of Senator Schmidt. Senator Schmidt indicated the introduction was done at the request of a veteran. Representative Goico testified in support of the bill and explained this bill and a similar bill in the House were introduced pursuant to testimony received by the Joint Committee on Kansas Security in 2011 and upon other requests. He said only ten states do not have such provisions. Representative Meier testified in support of the bill, indicating numerous veterans

*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 <http://www.kslegislature.org>

need an identification card to receive services from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and other agencies. Representatives of the Department of Revenue, Division of Vehicles, testified in support of the bill, as did representatives from the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, The American Legion Department of Kansas and the Military Officers Association of America.

There was no other testimony.

The Senate Committee on Transportation amended the bill to remove the requirement the designation be in a hologram on the back of the driver's license or ID card, to change the effective date (which the Committee was told by representatives of the Department of Revenue would lower costs), to make eligible someone who received a general discharge under honorable conditions in addition to someone who received an honorable discharge, to allow equivalent documents in addition to the DD214 as proof of eligibility, and to add assisting the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs in notifying veterans of facilities, benefits, and services available to them to allowable uses of lists of names and addresses from motor vehicle records.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget states passage of the bill would cost about \$94,630. According to testimony, amendments made to the bill by the Senate Committee would reduce some of these costs. The estimated costs are not reflected in *The FY 2014 Governor's Budget Report*.