

House Committee on Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development

Neutral Testimony on HB 2745 by Kansas State Board of Technical Professions

Chairperson Sean Tarwater and members of the Committee:

Good afternoon, I am Larry Karns, the Executive Director of the Board of Technical Professions.

The Board of Technical Professions is a fee funded agency. Our revenues are derived principally from licensing fees charged applicants for licensure and licensure renewals fees. Our licensees, engineers, architects, geologists, land surveyors and landscape architects, are scattered across the country with approximately 2/3's or more residing out of state. Many of our licensees are licensed and practice in multiple states. You do not need to live in Kansas to be licensed to practice in Kansas.

I am here before you to provide information regarding HB 2745. As I read the bill it would exempt from paying Kansas licensing related fees for any applicant who is the spouse of an active military servicemember regardless of where they reside. The statute being amended by this bill in KSA 48-3406 (a)(1) defines "applicant" as "an individual who is a military spouse, military servicemember or an individual who has established or intends to establish residency in Kansas." Military spouses or military servicemembers are not required to be or intend to become Kansas residents to be covered by the bill. If the purpose of the bill is to provide relief to military families stationed in Kansas it could be amended to reflect that it applies only to spouses of active military service members stationed in Kansas.

We do not know the fiscal impact of this bill as we do not have sufficient data to calculate the reduction in revenue. The reduction will be higher if it applies to spouses of active military service members living out of state as well as to those stationed in Kansas. I will stand for questions.

Larry Karns, Executive Director

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