

SESSION OF 2024

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2829**

As Recommended by House Committee on  
Veterans and Military

**Brief\***

HB 2829 would update the term “military service” and would add the term “Space Force” to the definition of Armed Forces.

***Updates to Definitions***

*Active Service (Sections 2-4 and 6-7)*

The bill would update the term “military service” to “active service.” The term would be made applicable to service members from the Space Force, as well as service members from any component of the military reserves and the National Guard of several states and territories, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. Active service would also include members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard.

*Armed Forces (Section 1)*

The bill would define a member of the Armed Forces to mean a person performing active service in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, or any U.S. Military Reserve component.

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\*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>

### *Veteran (Section 5)*

The bill would update the term “veteran” to mean a person who served in the active military, naval, air, or space service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.

### ***Technical Amendments***

The bill would make technical amendments to various statutes to modernize language and ensure consistency in statutory phrasing. The bill would also replace the term “branch” with “component” when referencing the U.S. Military Reserve.

### **Background**

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Taxation at the request of Representative Ellis. [Note: The bill is identical to the provisions of 2024 HB 2758, passed as amended by the House Committee of Veterans and Military, but the bill was stricken from the calendar by Rule 1507.] The bill was referred to the House Committee on Veterans and Military on March 12, 2024.

### ***House Committee on Veterans and Military***

In the House Committee hearing on March 14, 2023, Representative Goddard and a representative of the Military Officers Association of America provided **proponent** testimony. The proponents noted the bill would recognize the recently established Space Force as part of the U.S. Armed Forces and provide consistency with federal code concerning benefits for service members and veterans.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the U.S. Department of Defense, State Liaison Office.

No other testimony was provided.

### **Fiscal Information**

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs states that enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect the agency. Enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services, or the Kansas Department of Labor. The State Board of Nursing indicates revisions in licensing software may be necessary, but the fiscal effect could likely be handled with existing resources. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Veterans and military; Space Force; active service