

SESSION OF 2013

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 27

As Amended by House Committee on Veterans,
Military and Homeland Security

Brief*

SB 27 would amend the definition of “qualified student” for the Military Service Scholarship Program, removing specifically named military engagements and specific countries, and including any service in international waters or on foreign soil in support of military operations. The definition also would include someone who received an “under honorable conditions (general) discharge” in addition to someone who received an honorable discharge or is still in military service.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Legislative Educational Planning Committee as part of the Kansas Board of Regents legislative package. A representative of the Kansas Board of Regents testified in support of the bill using general eligibility definitions that will allow scholarships to be available in the future to students who may be in combat operations outside of the specific countries and operations listed in current law.

There was no opponent testimony.

The Senate Committee on Ways and Means amended the bill to clarify the supporting documentation necessary for the Board of Regents to determine eligibility.

In the House Committee on Veterans, Military and Homeland Security, testimony in support of the bill was

*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>

provided by representatives from the Kansas Board of Regents and the Kaw Valley Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America.

The was no opponent testimony.

The House Committee amended the bill to include a person with a general discharge under honorable conditions to the list of qualified students eligible for the military scholarships.

The fiscal note from Division of the Budget on the original bill states the bill would open the scholarship to more individuals, but the program is not at full capacity and has funding available for additional scholarships.