HOUSE BILL No. 2209

By Committee on Veterans and Military

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AN ACT concerning veterans and military; relating to workers compensation; providing that national guard members receive benefits under the workers compensation act.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) On and after July 1, 2023, any member of the national guard who is entitled to benefits under K.S.A. 48-263, and amendments thereto, subject to the limitations of K.S.A. 48-264 through 48-265, and amendments thereto, shall, in lieu of receiving the benefits under K.S.A. 48-261 through 48-271, and amendments thereto, be subject to the procedures, benefits and compensation established by the workers compensation act in K.S.A. 44-501 et seq., and amendments thereto.

- (b) Any wound, injury, disease, illness or death that occurs prior to July 1, 2023, that entitles a member to benefits shall be governed by K.S.A. 48-261 through 48-271, and amendments thereto.
- (c) The average weekly wage of a member, for the purposes of K.S.A. 44-511, and amendments thereto, shall be the member's civilian earnings, current military earnings or the compensation paid under the provisions of K.S.A. 48-225, and amendments thereto, whichever is greater.
- (d) If a member or their dependents receive federal compensation due to a wound, injury, disease, illness or death that is covered by the workers compensation act, the amount of federal compensation shall be deducted from the amount otherwise due from the state of Kansas. Before any claim is processed under the workers compensation act, the member shall sign an authorization consenting to the release of any information pertaining to the federal compensation paid for any wound, injury, disease, illness or death covered under the workers compensation act.
- Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.