

SESSION OF 2015

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2154

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2154 would establish a permissive veterans' preference in private employment. The bill would authorize a private employer to adopt a policy to give a hiring preference to a veteran who meets the requirements of the job. The bill would require such a policy to be in writing and to be applied consistently to all decisions regarding initial employment. Veterans would be required to provide the employer with proof of military service and proof of honorable discharge or general discharge under honorable conditions from such military service.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Veterans, Military and Homeland Security, at the request of Representative Phillips. Proponent testimony was provided in the House Committee by Representative Phillips and representatives of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs Office, the Department of Defense State Liaison Office, and the Governor's Military Council. No neutral or opponent testimony was provided.

The House Committee of the Whole amended the bill by replacing language requiring veterans to provide DD214 forms with language requiring veterans to provide proof of military service and proof the discharge was honorable or general under honorable conditions. This amendment 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>

technical in nature and was made because not every veteran discharged from military service will receive a DD214 form, as required by the bill as introduced.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the bill would have no fiscal effect on the Kansas Department of Labor's budget. The Attorney General indicates the only potential cost would come from a legal challenge to the law and, if such a challenge were to be made, the agency would defend the action using existing resources.

Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2016 Governor's Budget Report*.