



February 13, 2024

SB 431

Proponent

Michael Kelly

Kansas Council of Chapters, Military Officers Association of America,
State Legislative Chair

Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee,

The Kansas Council of Chapters of the Military Officers Association of America supports SB 431. Our members have the highest regard and deepest respect for the life and service of U.S. Army Chaplain Kapaun. His unrelenting courage and miraculous displays of selflessness under the most extreme conditions in the face of a hostile enemy force are shining beacons of positive character values that must never be lost to history.

These few words do not do justice to his memory but the memorial we urge you to authorize will help us remember this humble servant who gave his all for his fellow soldiers under the most trying of circumstances. Chaplain Kapaun kept the faith and led many other soldiers to survive their ordeal as prisoners of war.

It is my honor to support this bill to further honor a moral giant, Army Chaplain Emil Kapaun.

I thank Chairman Thompson and the Committee for taking MOAA's testimony today and I'm prepared for your questions.