

SESSION OF 2024

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2646**

As Recommended by House Committee on  
Education

**Brief\***

HB 2646 would amend the Kansas Hero's Scholarship Act (Act) to expand the number of eligible recipients who may receive financial assistance.

The bill would make the following changes to the eligibility requirements:

- Remove provisions limiting eligibility to those who served as a member of the military after September 11, 2001; and
- Clarify provisions pertaining to military servicemembers who died while in military service or sustained an injury or disability that rendered the servicemember incapable of continuing such service.

The bill would also add a provision requiring the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) to establish an aggregate limit for financial assistance under the Act each year based on the annual appropriated amounts for paid reimbursements. The bill would remove the reimbursement limit of \$500,000 per year for educational institutions.

The bill would be in effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

---

\*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>

## **Background**

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Education at the request of a representative of KBOR.

### ***House Committee on Education***

In the House Committee hearing, a representative of KBOR provided **proponent** testimony, stating the bill would improve administration of the Act, benefit servicemembers' spouses and dependents, and make the Act subject to appropriation, like other financial aid programs administered by KBOR.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of United WE.

No other testimony was provided.

## **Fiscal Information**

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, KBOR indicates enactment of the bill would increase the amount of time KBOR staff would spend administering the scholarship but the additional time would be absorbed within existing resources. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Education; Kansas Hero's Scholarship Act; postsecondary education; scholarship; public safety officer; military; Kansas Board of Regents