HOUSE BILL 2078 TESTIMONY Committee on Veterans, Military ad Homeland Security By Charles M. Yunker, Adjutant The American Legion Department of Kansas January 31, 2013

Thank you for granting me the opportunity to testify in favor of House Bill 2078. My name is Charles Yunker and I represent the American Legion as its Adjutant for the state of Kansas.

The American Legion supports House Bill 2078 for many of the same reasons it supports House Bill 2077. Simply put it has great potential to provide veterans who have been recently discharged under honorable conditions and the citizens of Kansas, to take advantage of the medical training and experience those veterans received while on active duty.

By its very nature, most military training exceeds civilian standards. While I am not familiar with medical training in either the military or civilian sectors due to personal experience I have no doubt military medical training is, at a bare minimum, on par with civilian standards. The fact is in an emergency I would feel more comfortable being administered to by someone whose practical experience stems from or near the battle field.

House Bill 2078 presents a unique opportunity for the Legislature to ease nursing shortage and at the same time provide the means to increase employment of fully trained and capable veterans. Therefore the American Legion urges your support and passage of House Bill 2078.

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