



**Kaw Valley Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
FY 2014 Kansas Legislative Priorities**



Dear Representative Goico and Members of the Committee,

I am LTC Ray Rhodd (Ret.), President of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), the Kaw Valley Chapter (KVC). The MOAA-KVC actively serves as an advocate for proposed legislation affecting the career force, the retired community, and veterans of the uniformed services.

To that end, the KVC Legislative Committee maintains coordination with local veteran service organizations (VSO), the Kansas State Legislature, and our Congressional delegation to advocate on behalf of military members and their families. To effectively do this, the KVC has been involved with development of common issues and recommendations at the local level. One of our legislative priorities this year is:

*- Request legislation to increase employment opportunities supported by disabled/disadvantaged contractors. The Federal government has employment and re-employment programs for veterans such as Helmets to Hardhats, and others. These types of services help veterans reintegrate into civilian life upon return from deployment, and Kansas should consider creation of similar services.*

That is why we support passage of HB 2078, a bill which amends the state statute to grant credit toward licensure for military training for certified nurses aids (CNAs) in Kansas. Under the Kansas State Board of Nursing, licensure for CNAs mandates particular courses and training for certification. This bill allows that some military training and experience may meet those credential requirements. If the board determines that to be the case, then the individual seeking such licensure in Kansas may use their military service and training to become certified and begin working in the state.

This bill, we believe, increases the opportunities for our service members to meet the requirements of the Kansas State Board of Nursing for a certified nurses aid. This means that more military families will come to Kansas and remain in Kansas to work with no break in work time or income for the military family.

Please consider passage of HB 2078. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself at [rhoddr1@aol.com](mailto:rhoddr1@aol.com) / 785-640-8751 or Major (Ret) Sheli Sweeney, MOAA Legislative Chair at [shelisweeney@hotmail.com](mailto:shelisweeney@hotmail.com) / 785.213.9053.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR KANSAS MILITARY MEMBERS AND FAMILIES!**

Veteran/Military/Homeland Security Comm

Date: JAN 31, 2013

Attachment #: 10