KCMA Military and Veteran Benefits Focus Group

**NGAKY Legislation Proposals**

1. Spouse/Dependent/Survivor License and certification waivers- amend KRS 12.357 to remove Active Duty requirement. Revise to include dependents/survivors. Remove “non-renewable” following the 6 month expiration to “renewable” as long as requirement continues and applicant remains qualified.

**Status: Draft Amendment created; currently being reviewed**

1. Renewal of professional license or certification – amend KRS 12.355 to change all of the Active Duty language (on active duty-is an active duty) to Service Member. Remove “at time of activation”; change “was” to “is”. Change to include “regardless of any change to their military status”; change to include discharge from their service obligation.

**Status: (As of 10 Oct) At Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee for bill drafting**

1. Military Assistance Trust fund – Amend KRS 36.474 to remove the Active Duty/Deployment Requirement for Service Members within the Kentucky National Guard

**Status: Mentioned during Forum; no further update**

1. Modify KRS 141.010 to include State Income Tax Exception for Dependents for Armed Forces Service Members are current deployed for the time period of their deployment, not to exceed one calendar year.

**Status: Mentioned during Forum; No further update**

1. Create a new sub - section under KRS 164.516 which establishes the transferability of Kentucky Tuition Award for personnel that currently hold a bachelor’s degree to Dependents pursing Training programs in Critical Areas – Healthcare, Education, STEM, etc.

**Status: Mentioned during Forum; No further update**

1. Tax incentives for businesses which hire Veterans, currently serving members of the National Guard, and their dependents– amend KRS 141.065 Unemployment Tax Credit – include new section for Veterans, define “Veteran” to include all members of Armed Forces, including current/former National Guard without deployment time.

**Status: Draft Amendment created; currently being reviewed**

1. Create a new section in KRS 132 to establish Veteran Property Tax Exemption – Tier(ed) System
   1. **Tier 1 – Survivor/100% service connected disability/MOH/POW – 100% exempt – (100% disabled currently under homestead rule)**
   2. Tier 2 – 99% - 50% service connected disability – 50% exemption based on property assessment
   3. Tier 3 – 49% - 10% service connected disability - $500 – 25% exemption based on property assessment
   4. Tier 4 – Current Active Service Combat Veteran (DD214 Verified) – 15% exemption based on property assessment
   5. Tier 5 – Current Active Service within the Armed Forces – 10% exemption based on property assessment
   6. Tier 6 – Retiree – 10% exemption based on property assessment

Un-married surviving spouse/designated dependent will receive same exemption as qualified deceased veteran upon their death – would require amendment to Kentucky Constitution Section 170

**Status: Mentioned during Forum; No further update**

1. State University application fees – Amend KRS 164.2844 to include a waiver of all application fees for Service Members, Veterans, and dependents seeking to enroll at a public university in Kentucky

**Status: Draft Amendment created; currently being reviewed**