

KANSAS DEPARTMENT





1314 SW TOPEKA BLVD. TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1886

## **MARCH 2024**

The following are the bills that are the Veterans bills still eligible for action in the Kansas Legislature as of 1 March 2024:

HB2036 – Extend Property Tax Exemptions on primary residence for disabled veterans from 30 to 100% (On a pro-rated basis). (Approved by vote in House, Now scheduled for Hearing).

SB58 & HB2199 & HB2281 – Provide sales tax exemption for veterans rated 50% disabled for purchases up to \$50K, except sales motor vehicles. (Now scheduled for Hearing).

HB2011 – Exempt currently serving military pay from Kansas Income Tax.

HB2204 – Provide Family caregivers of disabled veterans a tax credit.

HB 2481 – Name a portion of K-96 Highway as the PFC Henry Lee Fisher Memorial Highway.

HB 2507 – Name a Bridge in Sumner County as the SrA Derek Scott Martin Memorial Bridge.

BOYS STATE: This year's dates are June 2 – 8, 2024. Applications are due March 31, 2024. The 2024 session marks the 87th Anniversary of this outstanding program. Boys State DVD's are available free of charge to Posts and a video is available on the website. This twelve-minute video highlights activities during the week of Boys State and features testimonials from several of the States themselves. They are both excellent recruitment tools for your Boys State Coordinator. You can order your copy or additional applications by calling the Boys State Office toll free at 785-550-6492 or online at www.kansasboysstate.org.

<u>CADET LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY:</u> Applications are due March 31, 2024. This year's dates are June 16 - 21. For applications or more information contact Department Headquarters or our website <u>www.kansaslegion.org</u>.

<u>DISTRICT CONVENTIONS</u>: Attend and elect good officers who will represent your District in the 2024-2025 membership year. Dates and locations for this year are: District I – Holton, April 13; District II - Shawnee, March 23; District III – Coffeyville, March 22-24; District IV – Emporia, April 13; District V – Derby-Haysville, April 6; District VI – Smith Center, April 27; District VII – Great Bend, April 6; District VIII – Bazine, April 20; District IX – Grainfield, April 20, and District X – Fairview, April 27

<u>POST ELECTIONS</u> are the most important in the Legion. Elections of Post Officers must be held not more than sixty days or less than fifteen days prior to the Department Convention which begins on June 1, 2024. This year those dates are April 2 and May 17. Elect responsible and qualified leaders who will represent you and your Post. The Names and Addresses of those elected to the office of Commander and Adjutant must be reported to Department Headquarters as soon as elected. A printed form is enclosed. (There is also a fillable form on <a href="www.kansaslegion.org">www.kansaslegion.org</a> at Member Services – Post Tools – Notification of Post/Squadron Commanders & Adjutants). All Posts are required to transmit this report even if they haven't changed. Send this completed Notification of Post/Squadron Commanders & Adjutant report to the Department Headquarters as soon as possible and we then forward it on to National.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS: Legionnaires have until May 1 to be certified for "Go-Getter" and "Big Team (10 new members and 25 new members respectively). These awards cannot be sent out correctly unless we have updated figures in this office. Certification forms are available at Department Headquarters for the "Gold Brigade" (50 or more NEW members) and the "Silver Brigade" (25 to 49 NEW members). Certification forms for the Gold and Silver Brigade are due at Department Headquarters May 1, 2024.

<u>SPECIAL CHILDREN & YOUTH CERTIFICATE</u> is still available to recognize a young person in your community. Any outstanding youth in any program that is available (Scouting, 4-H, or other Community service or religious group). Send Department Headquarters the name and organization in which they participate. (There is also a fillable form on <a href="https://www.kansaslegion.org">www.kansaslegion.org</a> at Member Services – Post Tools – Special Children & Youth Certificate).

DISTRICT STANDINGS AS OF MARCH 1, 2024: District II, 2,947 - 90.84%; District VI, 1,137 - 89.74; District I, 2,042 - 89.64%; District V, 2,305 - 88.72%; District IV, 2,471 - 88.57%; District X, 994 - 87.89%; District IX, 742 - 85.88%; District VII, 1,292 - 84.78%; District VIII, 637 - 84.71% and District III, 1,563 - 84.26%. Department Headquarters Post 58 (included in Dept. total) is 903. Total membership is 17,033. Membership last year on this date was 17,129. We are BEHIND 96 members.

IN ORDER TO AVOID RECEIVING THE NEXT RENEWAL NOTICE ALL PAID MEMBERS' CARDS MUST BE IN THIS OFFICE BY APRIL 10, 2024.