HB 1524 -- State Militia and Military Medals, Badges, and Campaign Ribbons

Sponsor: Largent

This bill changes the laws regarding military forces and authorizes certain medals, badges, and ribbons for outstanding military performance and for service in direct support of several military campaigns. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Defines "primary next of kin" as, in order of precedence, surviving spouse, eldest child, father or mother, eldest brother or sister, or eldest grandchild as it relates to the Uniform Code of Military Justice;
- (2) Requires members of the state militia, including its reserve forces, to be considered state employees for purposes of the State Legal Expense Fund and for workers' compensation coverage when they are ordered to active military duty or called to duty by the Governor;
- (3) Authorizes the Governor, upon the recommendation of the Adjutant General, to present a Legion of Merit Medal to individuals who have exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding military service and achievement reflecting honorably and creditably upon the state;
- (4) Authorizes the Adjutant General to present a Missouri Adjutant General Staff Identification Badge to an individual based on demonstrated outstanding performance of duty; and
- (5) Authorizes the Governor, upon the recommendation of the Adjutant General, to present a campaign ribbon to individuals who have served in direct support of several military campaigns. The ribbons include a Missouri Iraq Campaign Ribbon, a Missouri Afghanistan Campaign Ribbon, a Missouri Kosovo Campaign Ribbon, and a Missouri Vietnam Campaign Ribbon.