

Ways and Means Committee
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Neutral Testimony for Substitute for House Bill 2331
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Executive Administrator

Good Morning Madam Chair McGinn and members of the Ways and Means Committee. My name is Mary Blubaugh, Executive Administrator for the Kansas State Board of Nursing (KSBN). I am providing neutral testimony for substitute for house bill 2331.

The Board of Nursing supports the cybersecurity language (Section 1 through 8) but has concerns with the portion of the bill (Section 9 through 37) which references IT consolidation. The original bill 2331 was for IT security only and KSBN provided testimony in support of that bill. The House Government, Security, and Technology Committee amended HB 2359 into 2331. Sections 9 through 37 contains HB 2359 and that is the portion that KSBN has concerns about. These sections creates the Kansas Information Technology Enterprise (KITE) and the transfer of agency IT personnel, funds, and the board authority to execute their IT strategic plan without receiving approval from the executive chief information technology officer.

During meeting with OITS questions have been asked about the cost and plans for the implementation of IT consolidation and we have been given no information. KSBN takes the mission of public protect very seriously but the board members also require excellent customer service. KSBN is run like a business. A business would not consolidate if they had no idea of the cost or business plan for the implementation and continued maintenance of the consolidation.

We respectfully request that an amendment be inserted that would require a Legislative Post Audit be conducted on all agencies receiving consolidated KITE services to evaluate the effectiveness of IT consolidation and after the completion of audit is completed and reviewed by the appropriate Legislative Committees, the Legislature can then revisit the IT consolidation of non cabinet agencies.

Since 2000, KSBN has participated in the Commitment to Ongoing Regulatory Excellence (CORE) through National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). CORE is a performance measurement program for boards of nursing to assess their own performance and benchmark their performance to other boards of nursing with similar or different board structures and sizes. KSBN is one of the top performing boards of nursing across the nation. Due to the high performance of KSBN, staff has been asked to participate on national committees to help develop guidelines that other states can use to increase their performance. This achievement would not be possible if it had not had the ability of the Board Members to implement IT solutions that allow for improvements and efficiencies. Renewal fees for all licensees were decreased by 9% (decreased from \$60 to \$55 every two years) in 2014 partly due to the IT efficiencies the agency has implemented.