

The mission of the Board of Nursing is to assure the citizens of Kansas safe and competent practice by nurses and mental health technicians

Date: February 15, 2022

To: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Senator Richard Hilderbrand, Chair

From: Carol Moreland, MSN, RN
Executive Administrator
Kansas State Board of Nursing

Subject: SB 453

Position: **Neutral (Written)**

The Kansas State Board of Nursing provides this written testimony for SB 453. The mission of the Board of Nursing is to assure the citizens of Kansas safe and competent practice by nurses and mental health technicians. SB453 includes a change in who can teach training courses for unlicensed employees. Presently these training courses must be taught by a registered nurse and this bill would allow an instructor to be a licensed registered professional nurse or a licensed practical nurse with a license in good standing. The 40 hours of training shall be supervised by a registered professional nurse.

Per K.S.A. 65-1113 the practice of nursing as a licensed practical nurse includes tasks and responsibilities that are based on acceptable educational preparation within the framework of supportive and restorative care under the direction of a registered professional nurse. HB 2477 contains a provision that allows a licensed practical nurse to provide healthcare services appropriate to such licensed practical nurse's education, training, and experience within designated healthcare facilities at which the licensed practical nurse is employed to work as necessary to support the facility's response to the COVID-19 pandemic without direction from a registered professional nurse. This provision is in effect through January 20, 2023. SB 453 states a licensed practical nurse can be an instructor of the training course, however, does not address the educational preparation the licensed practical nurse must complete to be faculty of a training course. The bill includes language about the preparation of the registered professional nurse, however, does not include language about the preparation of the licensed practical nurse.

SB 453 allows simulation experiences to be used in the clinical instruction portions of a training course. If the training course is conducted in two parts, simulation experiences are limited to half the clinical instruction hours. Simulation as a teaching strategy is different from clinical learning experiences. A definition of simulation would provide clarity regarding the difference between clinical learning experiences and simulation. Those two definitions were clarified in the nurse practice act when simulation was included. K.A.R. 60-1-104 (f) defines clinical learning experience as an active process in which the student participates in nursing activities while being guided by a member of the faculty. K.A.R. 60-1-104 (ff) defines simulation as a teaching strategy utilizing technology to replace or amplify clinical situations with guided experiences that evoke or replicate substantial aspects of the real world in a fully

interactive manner. Any faculty utilizing simulation as part of clinical hours must be trained in the proper utilization of simulation as a teaching method. This is not taught to students in undergraduate practical nursing or registered nursing programs. There is no language in SB 453 about simulation training for the faculty that would be utilizing simulation.

SB 453 states the skills demonstration shall be evaluated by a registered professional nursing licensed and in good standing. It is assumed the licensed practical nurse can teach the rest of the course. Both the licensed practical nurse and registered nurse faculty will need training to be an effective instructor as that content is not included in the curriculum of undergraduate nursing programs in Kansas.

SB 453 needs to include clarity about the difference between simulation and clinical learning experiences. SB 453 also needs to include clarity about the education faculty must receive before teaching a course.

Thank you for your time and service.