

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT BRIEF
HOUSE BILL NO. 2014**

As Agreed to April 5, 2023

Brief*

HB 2014 would modify the Boiler Safety Act and emergency medical services (EMS) statutes relating to certain job qualifications and position descriptions.

Boiler Safety Act

The bill would remove statutory qualifications of the chief inspector of boiler safety and deputy inspectors.

Current law requires a chief inspector to have:

- No less than five years of experience in the construction, installation, repair, operation, or inspection of boilers, steam generators, super-heaters, or pressure vessels;
- Hold an in-service commission; and
- Hold the following endorsements issued by the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors (NBBI):
 - An “A” endorsement; and
 - A “B” endorsement, or the ability to acquire such endorsement within 18 months after appointment as chief inspector.

Current law requires a deputy inspector to have:

- Completed courses and training, and have experience in the construction, installation, repair, operation, or inspection of boilers or pressure vessels, with at least two years of time spent in the aggregate on education, training, and experience; or
- Have at least five years’ experience in the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, or plumbing fields related to the installation or repair of boilers or pressure vessels; and

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- Hold an in-service commission issued by the NBBI, or the ability to acquire such commission within 12 months after appointment as deputy inspector.

EMS—Instructor Coordinator

The bill would remove references in current EMS statutes to persons holding the instructor-coordinator designation.

The bill would remove the definition of the term “instructor-coordinator” and would remove provisions concerning civil damages related to an instructor-coordinator’s course of instruction.

The bill would also amend the definition of “healthcare provider” to replace a reference to first aid courses taught by an instructor-coordinator with first aid courses taught by the Emergency Medical Services Board (Board). The bill would also clarify language in the definition to include licensed physician assistants and would remove outdated language related to required training and specified examinations.

The bill would amend the statutory membership of the Board to replace an instructor-coordinator member with a member who is actively involved in teaching initial courses of instruction for certification as an EMS provider.

Conference Committee Action

The Conference Committee agreed to remove the contents of HB 2014 relating to a memorial highway designation and insert the contents of HB 2422, as passed by the House, and HB 2438, as passed by the House.

Background

HB 2422 (Boiler Safety Act)

HB 2422 was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of the State Fire Marshal.

House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In the House Committee hearing, the State Fire Marshal provided **proponent** testimony, stating the bill would allow the agency to work with the Department of Administration on creating entry level positions and appropriate position descriptions that are needed due to the difficulty in filling open job vacancies. He also stated this bill would allow the agency to begin an apprentice program with vocational schools in the state. No other testimony was provided.

HB 2438 (EMS—Instructor Coordinator)

HB 2438 was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of Representative Eplee.

House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In the House Committee hearing, a representative of the Board provided **proponent** testimony, stating the bill would eliminate unnecessary occupational licensing for instructor-coordinators, especially for those who may hold a degree to educate or who qualify as a subject matter expert. The representative stated this bill would grant better access to EMS education.

Neutral testimony was provided by a representative from the Kansas Academy of Physician Assistants. The representative indicated physician assistants no longer take a national board examination through the American Board of Medical Examiners to achieve licensure. The representative stated the American Medical Association (AMA) formally relinquished approval authority for Physician Assistant education programs in 1988, and currently, the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant is the accrediting organization. The representative provided a suggested amendment regarding outdated language pertaining to the AMA and the national board examination through the American Board of Medical Examiners.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to add “licensed physician assistant” to the definition of “healthcare provider” and remove outdated language related to examinations and training that is no longer available to practitioners. [Note: The Conference Committee retained this amendment.]

Fiscal Information

HB 2422 (Boiler Safety Act)

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on HB 2422, the State Fire Marshal indicates the enactment of this bill would have no fiscal effect on its operations.

HB 2438 (EMS—Instructor Coordinator)

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on HB 2438, as introduced, the Board indicates enactment of the bill would reduce revenues to the EMS Operating Fund by \$2,700 in FY 2024. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor’s Budget Report*.

State Fire Marshal; National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors; chief inspector; deputy inspector; boilers; qualifications; boiler safety act; emergency medical services; instructor-coordinator; certification; Kansas Emergency Medical Service Board; Kansas Academy of Physician Assistants; Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant; American Medical Association; American Board of Medical Examiners; physician assistant