

12345 College Blvd. • Overland Park, KS • 66210-1299

March 4, 2025

House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Capitol Building 300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Topeka, KS 66612-1504

House Committee Members:

On behalf of Johnson County Community College, I am writing to express our opposition for House Bill 2392 related to changes in training requirements for nursing instructors.

The main point of awareness is that lowering faculty qualifications runs counter to our nursing accreditation. Further, lowering the educational standard in Kansas could potentially dissuade nursing faculty with graduate degrees from seeking employment in the state of Kansas. It could also have a chilling effect on graduate degree level nurses entering the field of education. Bachelor's prepared faculty are usually less equipped to teach advanced theoretical and clinical information, engage with scholarly publications that are essential for implementing evidence-based practices, participate in curriculum writing and revision, perform classroom/program assessments, take on leadership roles, and implement policies.

Individuals with a medical degree alone are not qualified to teach in nursing schools. In basic terms, the medical model views the patient as a collection of symptoms and physiological systems to be analyzed and treated. The nursing model incorporates a holistic approach, considering physical, emotional, and social aspects of care. Additionally, one level up from our program would be BSN-prepared nurses. However, a BSN does not provide training in curriculum development, assessment and evaluation of students, or teaching and learning pedagogy.

In short, it is not realistic to expect instructors to prepare future nurses if the instructor is not a nurse. Thank you for your consideration.

L. Michael McCloud, PhD

Provost, Johnson County Community College

T. Michael McClerc