



KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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Proponent Testimony on HB 2163

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testify on HB 2163. This bill would provide “preceptors” with the opportunity to receive a tax credit in exchange for helping to train nursing students as well as other specialties listed in the bill. Preceptors play a crucial role in community college nursing education by bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-world clinical practice. As experienced nurses who mentor and guide students, preceptors provide invaluable hands-on instruction, helping students develop essential clinical skills and confidence in a real healthcare setting. Their expertise allows students to apply theoretical knowledge to actual patient care, fostering critical thinking, clinical judgment, and professional growth.

Beyond teaching technical skills, preceptors also serve as role models, demonstrating effective communication, empathy, and teamwork, which are essential traits for any successful nurse. Without preceptors, students would struggle to gain the practical experience needed to excel in their careers. In short, preceptors are an integral part of the nursing education process, ensuring that students are fully prepared to meet the demands of the healthcare industry and deliver safe, compassionate care. A lack of available and willing preceptors can limit the number of students who are able to be admitted to nursing programs in certain locations in the state. Clinical placement and preceptors are often the limiting factor determining if a college can admit the maximum number of students allowed by the board of nursing. While the Kansas community colleges often pay preceptors which would disqualify them from the tax credit in this bill, there may be preceptors for which a tax credit and volunteering may be more attractive.

It is difficult to determine the shortage of preceptors because the locations of clinicals for students are always changing and therefore a different preceptor may be needed. However, in discussions with community college nursing programs the lack of clinical locations and the lack of clinical preceptors are often cited as barriers to the provision of education. The nursing shortage in the state is critical and any tool in our toolbox to address the shortages of needed preceptors would be appreciated.