

SESSION OF 2026

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 334**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on  
Commerce

**Brief\***

SB 334 would provide education levels for instructors at nursing schools as a requirement for state approval.

The bill would require, in addition to other requirements in continuing law, that faculty at a school seeking approval from the Kansas State Board of Nursing (Board) as a school for professional nurses or at a school for practical nurses possess a nursing degree awarded by a state or nationally accredited school of nursing approved by the Board that is at least one level more advanced than the degree awarded by the program in which they are teaching. The bill would prohibit the Board from requiring additional or more advanced credentials for such faculty.

The bill would allow the Board to grant an exemption for this requirement to a school facing hardships in hiring faculty.

**Background**

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Commerce at the request of Senator Owens on behalf of LeadingAge Kansas.

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <https://klrd.gov/>

### **Senate Committee on Commerce**

In the Senate Committee hearing, a representative of LeadingAge Kansas offered **proponent** testimony, generally stating the bill would create reasonable flexibility in nurse faculty hiring standards without lowering educational or quality expectations, which would then grow the nursing workforce of Kansas.

**Opponent** testimony was provided by a private citizen, who generally stated the bill would decrease educational standards for Associate Degree nurses, discourage pursuit of advance degrees, and increase the risk to patients.

Written-only opponent testimony was provided by the Director of the Nursing Program at Johnson County Community College and a private citizen.

Written-only neutral testimony was provided by a representative of the Board.

No other testimony was provided.

### **Fiscal Information**

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Board indicates enactment of the bill would have a negligible fiscal effect.

Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

Commerce; nursing; nursing schools; instructors; Kansas State Board of Nursing