Written Testimony Before the House Health and Human Services Committee By

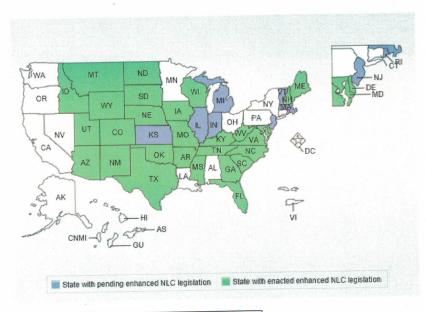
Merilyn Douglass, APRN, President Kansas Advanced Practice Nurses Association

January 31, 2018

Chairman Hawkins and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

The Kansas Advanced Practice Nurses Association (KAPN) representing nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives and clinical nurse specialists, are proud to offer support of HB 2496, the nurse license compact. This bill allows nurses to provide care in other Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC) states under one multistate license. By joining this compact Kansas improves access to nursing care by allowing nurses to cross state borders as their work dictates. Examples of nurses who would benefit include military spouses, telehealth nurses, case managers, nurse executives, nurses living on borders, nurses engaged in remote patient monitoring, school nurses, travel nurses, call center nurses, nurses providing disaster duty, online nursing faculty, home health nurses, nurses doing follow up care and countless more.

The multistate license does require a criminal background check and fingerprint identification, similar to the requirements for licensure in Kansas. Assurance of public safety remains.



29 states have enacted multistate nurse compact legislation. All the border states around Kansas are compact states. Kansans would benefit from the access of border state nurses providing cares in Kansas.

National Council State Boards of Nursing

KAPN urges this committee to support this legislation, updating RN/LPN licensure processes, providing more access to nursing care in Kansas. We appreciate your time and consideration of this matter. Most of all thank you for your honorable service to the state and the citizens of Kansas.

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