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Executive Director

Sam Brownback, Governor

To: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Senator Mary Pilcher Cook, Chair

From: Kathleen Selzler Lippert, JD Executive Director
Kansas State Board of Healing Arts

Date: March 17, 2015

Subject: SB 285 concerning the Healing Arts & relating to the Physician Assistant Licensure Act
Proponent testimony

The Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (KSBHA) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 285. The KSBHA presently licenses and regulates 13 health care professions. The mission of the KSBHA is to safeguard the public and strengthen the healing arts. The KSBHA worked with a variety of health care stakeholders on issues to update and enhance the Healing Arts Act and Physician Assistant Licensure Act. SB 285 includes the following:

- Creates a new “resident active” license to allow physicians in residency programs to have a full scope of practice to work outside their residency programs after their first year of residency. Residents must meet all other requirements for full licensure and be in good standing in their residency programs.
- Eliminates confusion created by the expired license status and provides a regular and late renewal period.
- 2009 Amendments created Letters Of Concern (LOC) & Professional Development Plans (PDP); eliminate confusion with old terminology of “private censure”.
- Creates federal active and exempt license status for Physician Assistants (PA).
- Allows PAs to write DNR orders if delegated such authority by a physician.
- Reinstates requirements for KSBHA licensees to furnish copies of patient records and sets appropriate charges for copies.
- Technical language or grammar updates such as replacing the word “clause” with “paragraphs”
- Delays effective date of 2014 PA Licensure Act amendments because additional time is needed to collaborate with stakeholders to create/amend necessary regulations for implementation. Notably, it maintains the two PA limit per physician and such terms as “written protocol”, “responsible physician” until January 11, 2016, when the limitation on PAs per physician will be set forth in regulation and the terms will be replaced by “written agreement” or “supervising physician” in relevant statutory sections.
- Sec. 3, page 15 KMS amendment to provide special permits to medical students.
- Many states do not create “certified copy” documents; rather they provide electronic documents; eliminates outdated requirement

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