

SESSION OF 2004

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2770**

As Amended by Senate Committee on  
Public Health and Welfare

**Brief\***

HB 2770, as amended by Senate Committee, makes several substantive additions to the laws that govern the delegation of responsibility by persons licensed to practice the healing arts. A general delegation statute that is a part of the Kansas Healing Arts Act is amended by the addition of a new subsection authorizing the Board of Healing Arts to adopt rules and regulations that establish limits and conditions on the delegation and supervision of services constituting the practice of medicine and surgery. A new paragraph added to the same statute requires licensees to comply with any such rules and regulations. A statute that is a part of the Physician Assistant Licensure Act is amended by deleting the absolute prohibition on a responsible physician having more than two physician assistants under such physician's supervision and direction. New language requires the Board of Healing Arts to limit the number of physician assistants a responsible physician may supervise at any one time to the equivalent of two full-time physician assistants as approved by the Board in each case.

HB 2770 amends a number of other statutes in which there are references to "physician's assistant" to the current terminology "physician assistant."

**Background**

The introduction of HB 2770 was requested by the Kansas Academy of Physician Assistants whose representative noted the change in terminology in references to PAs. The representative also stated the original bill, which would have removed the two-person limit

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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 <http://www.kslegislature.org>

on the number of physician assistants a responsible physician can supervise, would allow for more flexibility, appropriate utilization of PAs, and improved patient care. The Board of Healing Arts appeared in support of the bill. The Senate Committee amendments make the policy changes in the bill more comprehensive by addressing not just the supervision of physician assistants, but the supervision of all persons to whom licensees in medicine and surgery delegate responsibility for services that constitute the practice of medicine and surgery.

The fiscal note indicates passage of the bill would result in costs that could be absorbed within the existing budget of the Board of Healing Arts.