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Sam Brownback, Governor

**To:** House Education Committee  
Representative Kasha Kelley, Chair

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

**Date:** February 12, 2013

**Subject:** HB 2181

#### Neutral testimony

The Kansas Board of Healing Arts (KSBHA) appreciates the opportunity to provide neutral testimony on HB 2181. The KSBHA presently licenses and regulates 14 health care professions. The mission of the KSBHA is to safeguard the public and strengthen the healing arts – public protection. Public protection encompasses several critical components, including ensuring the character and competence of an applicant before granting licensure and remediating or disciplining licensees who violate their practice act.

HB 2181 provides that licensing body in Kansas may authorize any education requirements for certification or licensure in this state to be waived for a military service members' application when it is based in part on a distance education course if they provide satisfactory evidence of completion of a distance education course. Additionally, the bill provides standards the course must meet to qualify.

KSBHA recognizes the value of our service members and the vital role they play in serving Kansans. KSBHA wants the House Education Committee, the Legislature, and others to know that distance education courses are currently recognized in both original applications and required continuing education requirements for each profession. Distance education appears to be recognized by most, if not all, other sister state agencies in Kansas.

We are available to respond to any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

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