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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Highland and Members of the House Committee on Education
From: Nick Myers, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Date: March 9, 2016
Subject: SB 358 as Amended by Senate Committee

Senate Bill 358 amends the nurse educator service scholarship program. This program provides scholarships for registered nurses in Kansas who are pursuing a master of science or doctoral degree in nursing and agree to engage in full or part-time teaching of nursing in Kansas. Each school of nursing is required to establish a nurse educator service scholarship application review committee to select qualified applicants from the school of nursing. The selections from each school of nursing are then forwarded on to the State Board of Regents for the final determinations as to which applicants are awarded a scholarship under the program.

Currently, the nurse educator service scholarship program applies to those schools of nursing in Kansas that are approved by the State Board of Nursing to grant a master of science or doctoral degree in nursing.

SB 358 would include accredited independent institutions as part of the nurse educator service scholarship program. SB 358 provides that:

- "Accredited independent institution" means a not-for-profit institution of higher education with its main campus in Kansas that maintains open enrollment and holds accreditation to grant a master of science or doctoral degree in nurse education or nursing administration from a national accrediting entity recognized by the United States department of education.