

SESSION OF 2016

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2482

As Amended by House Committee on Education
Budget

Brief*

HB 2482 would add “accredited independent institution” to the definition of “school of nursing” applicable to the Nurse Educator Service Scholarship Program Act (Act). The bill would define an accredited independent institution as a not-for-profit institution of higher education that has its main campus or principal place of operation in Kansas, is operated independently and not controlled or administered by the state, 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. The bill would add a definition of “open enrollment” to the Act, to be that ascribed in KSA 74-32,120.

Background

At the hearing on the bill by the House Committee on Education Budget, the President of the Kansas Independent College Association testified in support of the bill. He stated including the independent colleges in the definition of school of nursing would increase participation in the scholarship program and may increase the nurse educators available to meet critical nursing shortages.

The House Committee amended the bill to change “nursing” to “nurse education or nursing administration” in the definition of school of nursing.

*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>

KSA 2015 Supp. 74-32,120 defines open enrollment as “the policy of an institution of higher education which provides the opportunity of enrollment for any student who meets its academic and other reasonable enrollment requirements, without regard for race, gender, religion, creed or national origin.”

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget states enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.