

The mission of the Board of Nursing is to assure the citizens of Kansas safe and competent practice by nurses and mental health technicians

Date: March 8, 2022

To: House Social Service Budget Committee
Representative Will Carpenter, Chair

From: Carol Moreland, MSN, RN
Executive Administrator
Kansas State Board of Nursing

Subject: **HB 2253**

Position: **Proponent (Written)**

The Kansas State Board of Nursing (KSBN) provides this testimony in support of HB 2253 that includes language regarding who is permitted to receive prescription monitoring program (PMP) data, data security, increasing the number of members of the PMP advisory committee and providing for annual maintenance fees to be charged. The mission of the Board of Nursing is to assure the citizens of Kansas safe and competent practice by nurses and mental health technicians. The prescription monitoring program assists healthcare providers to safely write controlled substance prescriptions, which promotes patient safety for the citizens of Kansas. The prescription monitoring program is a very valuable tool in public protection for prescribers, which includes advanced practice registered nurses. Checking the prescription monitoring program before prescribing assists the prescriber in avoiding dangerous medication combinations and identifying any prescribing patterns of concern.

KSBN has assisted in financially supporting the prescription monitoring program by transferring funds from the KSBN fee fund since the grant funding for maintenance of this program ended in 2016. K.S.A. 65-1684 prohibits imposing any charge for the establishment or maintenance of the prescription monitoring program on a prescriber. HB 2253 allows the Board of Pharmacy to establish and charge an initial setup fee and an annual maintenance fee for the integration of program data in an electronic health record or pharmacy management system approved by the Board of Pharmacy, which will provide additional funds for maintenance of the PMP. This bill increases the security of the data in the PMP by requiring an individual registered for access to the program database or the Kansas Board of Nursing to notify the Board of Pharmacy within 30 calendar days of any action that would disqualify the individual from being authorized to receive program data (includes denial, suspension, revocation or other administrative limitation of a practitioner's license). Data security is very important because of the sensitive data contained within the PMP. This bill adds to the program advisory committee one licensed advanced practice provider. The Board of Nursing has had a designated APRN on this committee for three years and it is very beneficial to the Board of Nursing, APRN practice in Kansas, and the Advisory Committee. KSBN supports HB 2253 and encourages passage of the bill.