

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 7, 2024

To: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Senator Beverly Gossage, Chair

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

Subject: HB2547

Position: **Proponent (Written)**

The Kansas State Board of Nursing (KSBN) provides this written testimony in support of HB2547 that concerns schools, authorizing the maintenance of emergency medication kits for certain life-threatening conditions; requiring a prescription for distribution of emergency medication to schools; providing requirements for the administration of emergency medication by school personnel, training; exempting certain persons from the practice of healing arts and civil liability if acting in good faith. KSBN regulates advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical nurses (LPNs).

HB2547, if passed, would allow an APRN to prescribe standard-dose and pediatric-dose epinephrine auto-injectors to a school. It would allow an APRN to prescribe to a school albuterol metered-dose inhalers, albuterol solution and spacers. AN APRN who writes a prescription for emergency medication or provides training to school personnel on the administration of emergency medication will not be liable for civil damages relating from the administration of emergency medication pursuant to this bill. AN APRN will review the school's policies and procedures established prior to prescribing these emergency medications.

HB2547, if passed, would allow a school nurse to administer epinephrine in an emergency to any individual who displays the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis at school, on school property or at a school-sponsored even, if the school nurse reasonable believes that an individual is exhibiting the signs and symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction. This bill will allow a school nurse to administer albuterol in an emergency to any individual who displays the signs and symptoms of respiratory distress at school, on school property or at a school-sponsored event if the school nurse reasonable believes that an individual is exhibiting the signs and symptoms of respiratory distress. A school nurse is defined as a RN licensed by the board of nursing to practice nursing in Kansas or an LPN working under a RN who is employed by a school to perform nursing services in a school setting.

Prescribing standard-dose and pediatric-dose epinephrine auto-injectors and albuterol metered-dose inhalers, albuterol solution and spacers is in the scope of practice for the APRN roles of Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist and Nurse Midwife. They have the advanced knowledge necessary to review

the school's policies and procedures prior to prescribing. The bill lists the content the training should include. The Kansas Nurse Practice Act authorizes a RN to administer medication per prescription after assessing the individual who is displaying signs and symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction or respiratory distress. The Kansas Nurse Practice Act authorizes LPNs working under (supervised) by a registered nurse to administer medications in a school setting.

This bill, if passed, would allow the presence and administration of epinephrine and albuterol in the school setting to any individual exhibiting the appropriate signs and symptoms. The administration of these medications could occur much faster which leads to the reversal of an anaphylactic episode and respiratory distress before the arrival of emergency medical services, which will save lives. The Kansas State Board of Nursing supports the passage of this bill.