

SESSION OF 2023

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2438**

As Amended by House Committee on Federal  
and State Affairs

**Brief\***

HB 2438, as amended, would remove references in current emergency medical services (EMS) statutes to persons holding the instructor-coordinator designation.

The bill would remove the definition of the term “instructor-coordinator” and would remove provisions concerning civil damages related to an instructor-coordinator’s course of instruction.

The bill would also amend the definition of “healthcare provider” to replace a reference to first aid courses taught by an instructor-coordinator with first aid courses taught by the Board of Emergency Medical Services (BEMS). The bill would also clarify language in the definition to include licensed physician assistants and would remove outdated language related to required training and specified examinations.

The bill would amend the statutory membership of the BEMS to replace an instructor-coordinator member with a member who is actively involved in teaching initial courses of instruction for certification as an EMS provider.

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\*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>

## **Background**

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of Representative Eplee.

### ***House Committee on Federal and State Affairs***

In the House Committee hearing, a representative of the BEMS provided **proponent** testimony, stating the bill would eliminate unnecessary occupational licensing for instructor-coordinators, especially for those who may hold a degree to educate or who qualify as a subject matter expert. The representative stated this bill would grant better access to EMS education.

Neutral testimony was provided by a representative from the Kansas Academy of Physician Assistants. The representative indicated physician assistants no longer take a national board examination through the American Board of Medical Examiners to achieve licensure. The representative stated the American Medical Association (AMA) formally relinquished approval authority for Physician Assistant education programs in 1988 and currently, the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant is the accrediting organization. The representative provided a suggested amendment regarding outdated language pertaining to the AMA and the national board examination through the American Board of Medical Examiners.

No other testimony was provided.

On March 16, 2023, the House Committee amended the bill to adopt the revisions suggested by the Kansas Academy of Physician Assistants. The amendment would add licensed physician assistant to the definition of healthcare provider and remove outdated language related to examinations and training that is no longer available to practitioners.

## **Fiscal Information**

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the BEMS indicates enactment of the bill would reduce revenues to the EMS Operating Fund by \$2,700 in FY 2024. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor's Budget Report*.

Emergency Medical Services; instructor-coordinator; certification; Kansas Emergency Medical Service Board; Kansas Academy of Physician Assistants; Accreditation Review Commission on Education for Physician Assistants; American Medical Association; American Board of Medical Examiners; physician assistant