

SESSION OF 2016

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2645

As Recommended by House Committee on
Health and Human Services

Brief*

HB 2645 would amend the Mental Health Technician's Licensure Act by removing the requirement of the Kansas State Board of Nursing (Board) to conduct mental health technician examinations, and by deleting the corresponding fees set forth in the statutory fee schedule. The bill would require that fees for an examination prescribed by the Board for a licensed mental health technician (LMHT) be paid directly to the examination service by the individual taking the examination or reexamination.

Additionally, the bill would change the description of services included in the definition of the practice of mental health technology by deleting "responsible nursing for patients with mental illness or intellectual disability," by inserting "participation and provision of input into the development of person-centered treatment plans and therapeutic procedures for individuals or groups of individuals," and by including facilitating habilitation of individuals. The bill also would replace the term "patient" with "individual."

Background

At the hearing before the House Committee on Health and Human Services, a representative of the Board testified in support of the bill. The representative stated the current cost of the examination is \$215, which is developed through a

*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>

contract between the Board and a testing company. The current cap the Board can charge for the examination is \$40. The representative stated 7 individuals have taken the examination this year at the Board's expense of \$1,225. The representative also stated the updated language for the role of the LMHT does not change the scope of practice.

No opponent or neutral testimony was provided.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the Board states an increased workload to handle additional licensure of LMHTs would be offset by the revenue received by applicants for licensure.