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**SF 2255** – Nurses Workforce Initiative (LSB 5513SV)

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Fiscal Note Version – New

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**Description**

**Senate File 2255** includes provisions relating to the nursing workforce.

The Bill directs the Iowa Department of Workforce Development (IWD) to establish a Nursing Workforce Data Clearinghouse for the purpose of collecting and maintaining data from all available and appropriate sources regarding Iowa's nursing workforce. The IWD is to have access to all data regarding Iowa's nursing workforce collected or maintained by any State department or agency to support the data clearinghouse and the information maintained in the Nursing Workforce Data Clearinghouse is to be available to any State department or agency. The Bill directs the IWD to consult with the Board of Nursing, the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Education, and other appropriate entities in developing recommendations to determine options for additional data collection. The Bill provides rulemaking authority to the IWD, in consultation with the Board of Nursing, to administer the data clearinghouse and directs a Nursing Workforce Data Clearinghouse to be established and maintained in a manner consistent with the health care delivery infrastructure and Health Care Workforce Resources Strategic Plan developed by DPH.

The Bill requires the IWD to submit an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly regarding the Nursing Workforce Data Clearinghouse and, following its establishment, the status of the nursing workforce in Iowa.

The Bill changes the name of the Nursing Workforce Shortage Initiative within the Health Care Workforce Support Initiative to the Iowa Needs Nurses Now Initiative and makes a similar change to the name of the account for the Initiative. The Bill also requires the College Student Aid Commission, currently in control of the Iowa Needs Nurses Now Initiative, to consult with the Iowa Board of Nursing, the Department of Education, and the Iowa Nurses Association in adopting rules and distributing funds.

The Bill also adds two accounts to the Health Care Workforce Shortage Fund:

- The Iowa Needs Nurses Now Infrastructure Account under the control of DPH to provide grants for clinical simulators, laboratory facilities, health information technology, and other infrastructure to improve the training of nurses and nurse educators in the State and to enhance the clinical experience for nurses.
- The Nurse Residency Training State Matching Grants Program Account under the control of DPH to provide matching State funding to sponsors of nurse residency programs in Iowa to establish, expand, or support nurse residency training programs that meet standards adopted by rule of DPH. The Bill also specifies the parameters of the Grant Program.

The Bill adds a Nurse Educator Scholarship Program as one of the components of the Iowa Needs Nurses Now Initiative with the goal of addressing the waiting list of qualified applicants to Iowa's nursing schools by providing incentives for the training of additional nursing educators. The Bill specifies the parameters of the Scholarship Program.

The Bill also provides that implementation is subject to the extent of funding available.

### **Background**

The Health Care Workforce Shortage Fund was created during the 2009 Legislative Session by SF 389 (Health Care Omnibus II Act). The Fund was created in the State Treasury as a separate fund under the control of the DPH. The Fund is set to be repealed effective June 30, 2014. The Fund and the accounts within the Fund consist of any moneys appropriated from the General Fund of the State for the purposes of the Fund or the accounts within the Fund; moneys received from the federal government for the purposes of addressing the health care workforce shortage; contributions, grants, and other moneys from communities and health care employers; and moneys from any other public or private source available. Administrative costs are limited to 5.0% of the balance of each account, to a maximum of \$100,000 per account.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The Bill does not specify a funding source and provides that the Bill will only be implemented to the extent funding is available.

The IWD is directed to develop a Nursing Workforce Data Clearinghouse. The estimated cost for doing this, should funds be available, is 1.0 FTE position and \$90,000 for FY 2011, and 1.0 FTE position and \$65,000 for each year thereafter.

The DPH would expend, should funds be available, an estimated 1.0 FTE position and \$134,000 for FY 2011, and 1.0 FTE position and \$103,000 for each year thereafter, to administer the Iowa Needs Nurses Now Infrastructure Account and the Nurse Residency Training State Matching Grants Program Account. Administrative costs are to be limited to 5.0% of the balance of each account, to a maximum of \$100,000 per account.

The College Student Aid Commission would be responsible for the Nurse Educator Scholarship Program at an estimated annual cost beginning with FY 2011, should funds be available, of 0.5 FTE position and \$50,000.

The table below summarizes the fiscal impact of the Bill:

<b>Summary of Fiscal Impact</b> (to the extent funding is available)				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>FY 2012</b>	<b>FTE</b>
IWD	Not specified	\$ 90,000	\$ 65,000	1.00
DPH	Not specified	134,000	103,000	1.00
College Student Aid	Not specified	50,000	50,000	0.50
<b>Total Estimated Expenditures</b>		<b>\$ 274,000</b>	<b>\$ 218,000</b>	<b>2.50</b>

### **Sources**

Department of Workforce Development  
Department of Education  
Department of Public Health  
College Student Aid Commission

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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The fiscal note for this bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#). Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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