

HB 2528 Summary

The Big Picture

This law limits the authority of the Kansas State Board of Nursing, corrects past disciplinary actions for non-practice issues, and strengthens due process and protections for nurses.

1. Past Discipline for Administrative Issues is Voided

- Discipline (2005–present) related to renewal, lapsed licenses, or paperwork is erased
- Records must be removed and cannot be reported to Nursys, NPDB, or OIG
- Previously reported records must be corrected
- Nurses may pursue legal action if not corrected by September 1, 2026

2. Definition of Unprofessional Conduct is Narrowed

- Now limited to actions affecting patient care, safety, or ethical practice
- Excludes late renewals, civil debts, and non-practice-related issues

3. License Renewal Improvements

- 30-day grace period with license remaining active
- \$300 late renewal fee
- Board must process renewals within 5 business days

4. Protection from Retaliation

- Protects nurses who speak out, report concerns, or participate in investigations
- Allows lawsuits with minimum damages of \$10,000 plus attorney fees

5. Investigation Time Limits

- Investigations must be completed within 22 months
- Prevents prolonged or indefinite investigations

6. Attorney Fee Protection

- Board must pay 50% of attorney fees if a nurse prevails

7. Board Structure Changes

- Board resets July 1, 2026
- Appointments require Senate confirmation
- Composition: 6 RNs/APRNs, 2 LPNs, 3 public members

8. Limits on Board Authority

- Administrative issues result in denial/delay of licensure only
- No disciplinary action for administrative errors

9. No Fines for Licensing Issues

- Board cannot fine nurses for initial or renewal licensing issues

10. Required Refunds

- Board must issue refunds for overpayments or duplicate payments

11. Transcript Requirements

- Schools must send transcripts within 5 business days

12. Increased Transparency

- Advance notice of rule changes
- Reporting requirements to legislature
- Public notice of voided disciplinary actions

Bottom Line

This law shifts discipline toward true patient safety concerns, eliminates penalties for administrative errors, and strengthens fairness, transparency, and accountability within the Board of Nursing.