

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2025
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB312

Hearing Date: Friday February 07, 2025
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Strommen
One Liner: Provide for student loans to students in nurse anesthesia practice programs and loan repayments for nurse anesthetists under the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye:	6	Senators Ballard, Fredrickson, Hansen, Hardin, Meyer, Quick
Nay:	1	Senator Riepe
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:		

Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Paul Strommen
Kris Rohde
Brielle Stutzman
Shayla Steenson
Lauren Stauffer
Caleb Rice
Sharon Hadenfelt

Representing:

Opening Presenter
Nebraska Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Nebraska Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Nebraska Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Nebraska Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Nebraska Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Nebraska Association of Nurse Anesthetists

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Under current law, health professions (i.e. physicians, dentist, mental health practitioners, physical therapists), under the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act, are eligible for student loans or loan repayment. LB 312 adds nurse anesthetists to these health professions.

Sec. 1: Includes nurse anesthetist in the student loan program under the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act.

Sec. 2: Includes nurse anesthetist in receiving financial assistance through loan repayments. Nurse anesthetists shall be limited to \$15,000 per recipient per year of a full-time practice in a designated health profession shortage



area; not to exceed \$45,000 per recipient.

Sec. 3: Adds nurse anesthesia practice to the list of health professions practices that the Rural Health Commission periodically designates as health profession shortage areas.

Sec. 4: Adds nurse anesthetist as a loan repayment recipient that executes an agreement with DHHS and a local entity. As a loan repayment recipient, a nurse anesthetist must agree to practice in a designated health profession shortage area for at least 3 years and accepts Medicaid patients. In consideration of the agreement, the State of Nebraska and a local entity within the designated health profession shortage area will provide equal funding for the repayment of the recipient's qualified educational debts for up to \$15,000 per year per recipient for nurse anesthetists as well as the currently listed health professions for up to 3 years.

Brian Hardin, Chairperson

