



COWLEY COLLEGE

Tia Bunch, Nursing Coordinator – Cowley College

Proponent in Writing HB2631

Date: 3/8/2022

House Education Committee

Proponent - Supporter for HB2631

Career and Technical Education
Credential and Transition Incentive

March 3, 2022

Dear State Representatives,

I am writing to you in support of HB2631. As the nursing coordinator here at Cowley College, I can tell you that there is a great need for more students to become Certified Nurse Aides, Certified Medication Aides, Certified Home Health Aides, Restorative Aides, and Phlebotomy Technicians. Nearly half of our enrollment for these courses are high school students, but there are many that cannot afford it. At some high schools, the schools buy the textbooks and gait belts to be reused by each class so that the student expense is reduced. However, that is a very small portion of schools. I am a proponent of HB2631 because our community hospitals and long-term care facilities are desperate for certified employees. The high schools offer the classes through us, but many students cannot afford to take the classes because they must pay for the textbook, background check, Tb skin tests, gait belt, and state exam fee out of pocket. Reimbursement for CTE classes (CNA, CMA, HHA, RA, and CPT) would provide the high schools with funding to be able to reduce the student expense. This would provide opportunity for more interested students to get into healthcare or start down the path to become a nurse. There are many high school students working right now to help their families pay bills, therefore, this would give those at risk students an opportunity to start down a career path.

Thank you,

Tia Bunch RN

Cowley College Nursing Coordinator