

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6838

BILL NUMBER: HB 1278

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 22, 2026

BILL AMENDED: Jan 20, 2026

SUBJECT: Nursing Matters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Barrett

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 1st House

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: *Board of Nursing*—The bill requires the Indiana State Nurses Association (ISNA), any time there is a vacancy or expiration of a term on the Board of Nursing, to recommend to the Governor a list of qualified nurses for appointment. (Current law requires the Indiana State Nurses Association to recommend the list when there is a vacancy on the Board.)

State Educational Institutions (SEIs)— The bill allows an institution that has been operating an eligible nursing program for at least five years to increase the enrollment in any eligible nursing program at any rate the institution considers appropriate.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Board of Nursing*— This provision may reduce workload for the Governor's office if they will not need to directly research replacements for expired terms on the Board.

State Educational Institutions (SEIs)— Under the current higher education performance funding formula, changes to enrollment could affect higher education appropriations for operations in future bienniums. The impact to state expenditures would likely be minor and would depend on the higher education formula used in the future. [SEIs receive state funding through General Fund appropriations.]

Explanation of State Revenues: *State Educational Institutions (SEIs)*— SEIs with practical nursing programs could experience an increase in nursing student enrollment, which could increase tuition fee revenue. The impact is expected to be minor.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Governor; state educational institutions.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.