

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

LS 6838
BILL NUMBER: HB 1278

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 17, 2026
BILL AMENDED: Feb 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Nursing Matters; Education Programs.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Barrett
FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Busch

BILL STATUS: As Passed Senate

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **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.

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:

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