Submitter: Amanda Hickle

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health

Care

Measure, Appointment or

Topic:

HB2948

School nurses manage students' medical conditions, through the nursing process, assessing, thinking critically and using nursing judgement to plan and implement interventions. This bill protects the integrity of clinical nursing practice in school settings by ensuring that only qualified RNs supervise clinical aspects of nursing care. Nurses are happy to work in conjunction and collaboration with school administrators, but our training and expertise are unique and necessary additions to the school team. This bill protects the quality and safety of nursing care for students and reduces liability for districts.

I like to think of it this way: A plumber would not direct the action of an electrician or vise versa, but they can and should work together to build a functional bathroom. Similarly, a nurse and administrator have different backgrounds, licenses, and sets of knowledge/skills that complement each other in meeting the health and educational needs of students. We should work together, but I cannot direct the work of an administrator and they should not direct my nursing assessment, nursing judgment, or practice specific to nursing.