

HB 223 -- Caring for Missourians Program

Sponsor: Wallingford

This bill establishes the Caring for Missourians Program within the Department of Higher Education to address nursing shortages and repeals an obsolete incentive grant program which focused on nontraditional nursing students. The Board of Nursing within the Division of Professional Regulation in the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration is authorized to provide funding for the program; and subject to appropriation, the Department of Higher Education will award grants to eligible higher education institutions based on criteria to be determined by the board and the Department of Higher Education. An eligible institution must offer a nursing program that meets the category and area of need as determined by the board and the Department of Higher Education based on data from sources specified in the bill.