

CU received initial approval from the Michigan Board of Nursing in January 2021, almost 18 months after the initial work was begun for this program. HLC approval was obtained in June 2021 with the first cohort starting in August of 2021. Given the change to the Michigan Board of Nursing rules on April 6, 2020, R 338.10303d states that a nursing education program approved by the Michigan Board of Nursing is required to have accreditation from a board-recognized nursing accreditation agency no later than January 1, 2025. Per our initial report to the board, CU had planned and has already obtained initial applicant status through CCNE. This comes with multiple expenses, including education and training for the director and faculty, CCNE membership fees, and the cost of hosting an on-site evaluation in 2023, resulting in approximately \$75,000-100,000 of accreditation expense between the start of the program and full accreditation.

In addition to the above-mentioned financial implications, the first cohort will not graduate until May 2024, 7 years after the initial work started to develop this program. Therefore, the development of additional programs will not address the current nursing workforce shortage. In addition, other challenges that have arisen include clinical placement and clinical site constraints and faculty shortages. In a study conducted by Fang & Kesten (2017), it is indicated that by 2025, approximately one-third of the current nurse faculty in academia (masters and doctorate prepared teaching at both the baccalaureate and graduate education level) will exit the workforce, resulting in a further negative impact on faculty availability for BSN programs.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Regards,



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Assistant Professor of Nursing
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References:

Fang, D., & Kesten, K. (2017, OCTOBER). Retirements and succession of nursing faculty in 2016-2025. *Nursing Outlook*, 65(5), 633-642. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.outlook.2017.03.003>

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To: House Education Committee

RE: Opposition to HBs 5556 and 5557

I am writing in regard to the financial implications and faculty considerations of developing and implementing a new BSN program. Cornerstone University (CU) has desired to provide nursing education for the past several decades. Due to time and monetary constraints, this was not possible until 2017, when CU partnered with University of Detroit Mercy's (UDM) nursing school to offer a 2+2 program in which students received an Associate's Degree in Health Services at CU and transferred to UDM for the final two years of their BSN degree, to evaluate interest in nursing at CU, and continue working towards establishing a complete BSN degree at CU. Therefore, in 2019 to mid 2020, significant work was completed to secure a **4-million-dollar** donation for the complete renovation of a state-of-the-art nursing lab facility, funding of a nursing consultant, and funding for the first 5 years of the nursing budget expenses, as per the Michigan Board of Nursing General Rules R338.10303 Rule 303.iv.A, the first two years of a nursing program budget cannot include tuition as revenue.

In August 2019, Dr. Jaime Sinutko was hired as an interim director of nursing to complete a feasibility study, develop the BSN curriculum, establish clinical partnership agreements, and partner in the search and hiring of a full-time director of nursing and nursing clinical coordinator. The fee for this service over a one-year period was \$100,000 (August 2019-August 2020), at which time a full-time nursing director and nursing coordinator were hired. The cost for these two individual's salary and benefits to continue the development of the program from August 2020-August 2021 was \$180,370. The consultant was maintained for the next one year at \$1,000/month (total of \$12,000) to support the continued development of this program. The total funding/cost, including consideration of the 4-million-dollar donation, to the program prior to the start of the first cohort is a total of **\$4,292,370**.