

**AB 1400 (Soria)**  
**Nursing Bachelor's Pilot**  
**FAQs**

**Q: Won't this force CCCs to compete with CSUs more than they already do for a limited number of clinical placements?**

- Because Community Colleges already offer Associate's degrees, the majority of the in-hospital clinical work is already accounted for in the curriculum they already offer.
- The additional curriculum to get an RN to a BSN involves mostly theory and clinical hours that don't need to be performed in a hospital, which makes it a lot easier and more flexible.
  - These additional hours can be in local clinics or other smaller settings, and have a lot more flexibility around them than the very limited hospital placements

**Q: Does the prioritization language limit the pilot to just four counties?**

- The claim that this bill is limited to four counties arises out of a misinterpretation of the federal definition of "persistent poverty area."
- A county can be designated a "persistent poverty area" under federal law, and only four counties in the state qualify under that definition.
- However, there is also a definition for census tracts, and there are literally hundreds of those spread throughout numerous counties in the state.

- The purpose of the “persistent poverty provisions” in this bill is to try to ensure we are not just targeting areas that need nurses, but also areas where there are socio-economic barriers for aspiring nursing students.

**Q: Why can't the CSU/CCC partnerships address this issue?**

- There has been a lot of progress in the last year on a number of partnerships between several CSUs and community colleges, but that has not been the normal experience for community college districts.
- There is no statute governing these partnerships, and community colleges are dependent on the goodwill of their local CSU.
- While this can succeed in some areas, it leaves the educational options of our students in the hands of universities they may never apply to or attend, and which frequently have little to no incentive to cooperate.

**Q: How are you going to address the Governor's veto?**

- We are examining options and will be working through the legislative process to find something that the Governor might be satisfied with.