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Oregon Legislature  
Healthcare Committee  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Healthcare Committee Member of the 77<sup>th</sup> Legislature,

Last week, the Oregon Association of Nurse Anesthetists (ORANA) lobbyists and CRNA's met with several of the Healthcare Committee Members re: SB210. SB 210 translates to codifying current CRNA practice. CRNA's are highly skilled and our education requires completion of accredited Master's/Doctorate level training. In addition to this we must pass a national certification exam and maintain ongoing continuing education to maintain our national certification.

For years, Oregon CRNA's have enjoyed providing independent, safe anesthesia to patients in traditional hospital suites, ambulatory surgery centers, eye centers, dental offices, podiatry offices, cosmetic surgery suites, GI centers and Women's Health Centers. Because Oregon is a rural state, many of these patients would not have access to anesthesia care if not for the CRNA living in the rural community. Many patients in a rural area cannot access medical care in urban areas due to financial and other resource barriers.

Passing SB210 is good public policy, maintains access to care for many patients and is economically beneficial to patients, traditional health insurers, OHP, Medicare and Tricare patients and the newly implemented Coordinated Care Organizations.

Finally, many CRNA's in Oregon are independent contractors and set up as small businesses. In this delicate economic environment, not passing SB210 could destroy many of these independent CRNA contractors businesses and limit their ability to provide anesthesia services in the profession they are highly trained to deliver.

As a Healthcare Committee Member I urge you to support SB210.

Sincerely,

Gayle Larson, CRNA, NP, MSN

