

February 20, 2015

Oregon House, Committee on Health Care
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Oregon House Bill (HB) 2295: Use of Anesthesiologist Assistants in Oregon

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the Committee:

As a Chief Nurse Anesthetist at Silverton Hospital , I am writing today **in opposition to HB 2295**, which proposes licensure for “Anesthesiologist Assistants (AAs)” in Oregon. I have been a CRNA for 10 years and I have served in this administrative capacity for the past 2 years. Our department provides the far spectrum of anesthesia care from day surgery to inpatient care, from laboring mothers to emergency surgery, and in endoscopy suites and remote areas within the hospital such as CT scan or MRI.

The other part of my job includes recruitment of CRNAs to join our practice. Traditionally we have many more applicants than we have jobs for. OHSU has an educational program for CRNAs which we are directly involved with and provides us with a great resource for recruitment of highly qualified CRNAs. The graduates from this program easily fit into our anesthesia team and provide excellent anesthesia care.

Currently, there are no issues in the anesthesia workforce that I am aware of in Oregon. We are very proud of our team and our ability to easily recruit CRNAs from across the country and retain a highly functioning anesthesia department.

Please vote no on HB 2295.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Todd Meyer', written in a cursive style.

Todd Meyer, CRNA