

Sandy,

I am a CRNA living in West Linn, Oregon. I am exceptionally concerned over this bill and the possible introduction of Anesthesia Assistant's into the medical practice environment of the Pacific Northwest. This region is already flooded with anesthesia providers and employment opportunities are rare and highly competitive. The introduction of another class of anesthesia providers will only serve to cause chaos and further stress on the medical system. Nurse Anesthetists have been providing anesthesia care in America for over 150 years and have time and again demonstrated professionalism, quality, and reliability, not to mention that CRNA's remain the most economically efficient anesthesia providers available, which should be the focus of healthcare reform. There have been multiple studies demonstrating that surgical outcomes of patients receiving care from CRNA's are as good or better than the outcomes of patients cared for by MD anesthesiologists. Please strongly indicate by whatever means you have available that Anesthesia Assistants should not be allowed to practice in Oregon. The most simple reason is that they are not needed and their presence will cause unnecessary burden on established providers as well as public confusion.

Thank you,

Seth Robbins, CRNA