

Hello,

My name is Doug Nasstrom and I'm a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) here in Oregon. I'm writing to Oppose Bill HB 2295 which would allow Anesthesiologist Assistants (AA's) in the state of Oregon. Passing this bill will negatively affect my livelihood and would surely pose an increase in harm to surgical patients. AA's are Not CRNA's and are Not allowed to practice independently. They pose a risk to Oregon patients because they lack education and limited scope of practice. There is NO shortage of CRNA's and Anesthesiologists in Oregon. In fact, it is very difficult to find a job in Oregon as a CRNA. There are more applicants than jobs. Most anesthesia folks including Anesthesiologists use www.gaswork.com. You will find a Very limited number of full time work available. CRNA's provide the majority of anesthetics in Oregon and many CRNA's work independently. I currently work with an all CRNA group, but I have also worked in a collaborative MD Anesthesiologists (MDA) and CRNA group. Both models work and I can assure you that you will NOT find a difference in the safety record when comparing CRNA's and MDA's. Currently MDA's and CRNA are providing 100% of the needed coverage for Oregonians. Again, there is No need to cloud the field of anesthesia with AA's. The American Association of Anesthesiologists (ASA) have been trying to control the field of anesthesia for 100 years. Introducing AA's would only fuel this ongoing endeavor. The ASA reasoning for wanting AA's is flawed and I hope you can see through that. It is meant to harm CRNA's. We provide quality, affordable and safe anesthesia. I am proud to be a CRNA I ask that you vote NO on bill HB 2295.

Thank you for your time,

Doug Nasstrom, CRNA