

Members of the House Health Care Committee,

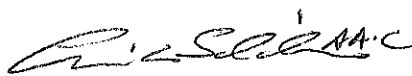
My name is Michael Schneider, AA-C. I am a young medical professional seeking to return to the state of Oregon to help patients and deliver anesthesia care to underserved populations. For decades, my grandfather practiced medicine at the Rinehart Clinic in Wheeler, and my father attended Neah-Kah-Nie HS before a long career as a pilot in the USAF. After relocating often with my military family, my academic pursuit and following career displaced me away from the Pacific Northwest.

Currently, my profession as an Anesthesiologist Assistant is unlicensed in the state of Oregon. House Bill 2295, now in committee, grants me permission to practice in the state under strict guidelines like other licensed medical professionals, including physician assistants and nurse practitioners. Anesthesiologist Assistants are licensed in 14 other states + District of Columbia, and we can work in Michigan and Texas under the license of a sponsoring physician. Our profession is over 40 years old, with a history of developed safety, research, and a cooperative culture with other anesthesia providers.

Oregon grows faster than the national average with only one anesthesiology residency program and one CRNA program to train anesthesia providers. In contrast, Georgia, my current state, hosts two residency programs, two AA-C programs, and one CRNA program. Passing this bill will help improve Oregon's supply of anesthesia personnel at no cost to taxpayers, while bringing in high income professionals to reduce future strain on the state's healthcare system caring for the aging and growing population. This is a win-win for patients, hospitals, and existing providers looking to reduce their often long, strenuous work hours.

Thank you for serving the state of Oregon and its patients. I look forward to good things happening this year in the state of Oregon. Please do not hesitate to reply with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Schneider, AA-C". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small vertical line above the letter 'i' in "Schneider".

Michael Schneider, AA-C