

March 3, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

As a healthcare professional, I am writing to express my support for House Bill 2876. This legislation protects surgical patients by creating minimum education and certification requirements for newly-practicing surgical technologists. In addition to a grandfathering provision, graduates of US military programs are exempt. Rural and medically underserved health care facilities may train their own surgical technologists if the facility is unable to find an educated and certified, military-trained or grandfathered surgical technologist.

Surgical technologists act as the surgeon's co-pilots, serving as a second set of eyes and hands in the operating room. The surgical technologist prepares and manages surgical equipment, instruments and supplies throughout the surgery; manages specimens such as cancer, skin grafts, and organs; and oversees the sterile integrity of the operating room, including the hundreds of instruments that are used in even the most basic surgery. Surgical technologists are critical in preventing surgical site infections and preventing surgical never events such as retained foreign objects.

Patients are at an obvious disadvantage during surgery - they are frequently unconscious. Patients never select and most often do not know who is on the surgical team.

No current regulations are in place that ensure minimum competency of surgical technologists. The Joint Commission, Medicare and state law do not have specific standards in place for surgical technologist education or certification.

Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lester B. Carter, Jr.", written in dark ink.

March 3, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

As a surgical technologist, I am writing to express my support for House Bill 2876. This legislation protects surgical patients by creating minimum education and certification requirements for newly-practicing surgical technologists. In addition to a grandfathering provision, graduates of US military programs are exempt. Rural and medically underserved health care facilities may train their own surgical technologists if the facility is unable to find an educated and certified, military-trained or grandfathered surgical technologist.

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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Justin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

March 3, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

As an operating room nurse, I am writing to express my support for House Bill 2876. This legislation protects surgical patients by creating minimum education and certification requirements for newly-practicing surgical technologists. In addition to a grandfathering provision, graduates of US military programs are exempt. Rural and medically underserved health care facilities may train their own surgical technologists if the facility is unable to find an educated and certified, military-trained or grandfathered surgical technologist.

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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Cunningham". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font. To the right of the name, there are some initials or a date that look like "12/10".

February 24, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

As a surgical nurse, I am writing to express my support for House Bill 2876. This legislation protects surgical patients by creating minimum education and certification requirements for newly-practicing surgical technologists. In addition to a grandfathering provision, graduates of US military programs are exempt. Rural and medically underserved health care facilities may train their own surgical technologists if the facility is unable to find an educated and certified, military-trained or grandfathered surgical technologist.

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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Maria M. Star RN, BSN".

Sacred Heart Medical Center
3333 Riverbend Dr,
Springfield, Or, 97477

February 26, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

As a surgical technologist, I am writing to express my support for House Bill 2876. This legislation protects surgical patients by creating minimum education and certification requirements for newly-practicing surgical technologists. In addition to a grandfathering provision, graduates of US military programs are exempt. Rural and medically underserved health care facilities may train their own surgical technologists if the facility is unable to find an educated and certified, military-trained or grandfathered surgical technologist.


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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Wilby", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
Springfield, Or

February 26, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

As a surgical technologist, I am writing to express my support for House Bill 2876. This legislation protects surgical patients by creating minimum education and certification requirements for newly-practicing surgical technologists. In addition to a grandfathering provision, graduates of US military programs are exempt. Rural and medically underserved health care facilities may train their own surgical technologists if the facility is unable to find an educated and certified, military-trained or grandfathered surgical technologist.

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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris [unclear]", written in a cursive style.

Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
Springfield, Or

February 26, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,



Jessica Simpson
Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
Springfield, Or

February 26, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,


Ryebend Hospital
3333 Ryebend Dr
Springfield, Or

Ryne Lindberg
CST

February 26, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. Nobles CST". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
Springfield, Or

February 26, 2015

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

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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,



JASON LINDER, CST/CSFA.

Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
Springfield, Or

February 26, 2015

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

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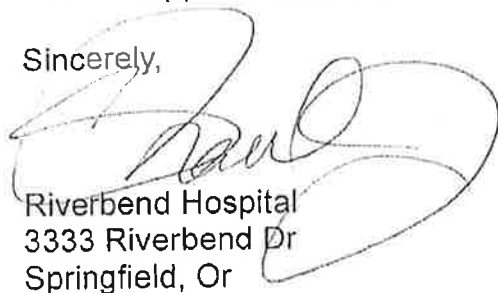
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Sincerely,



Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
Springfield, Or

Shawna Jensen
CSFA

February 26, 2015

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

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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,

Barb Trimble CST

Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
Springfield, Or

February 26, 2015

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

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Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
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900 Court Street, NE
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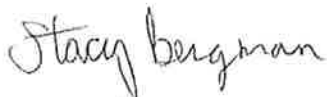
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Springfield, Or

February 26, 2015

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Salem, Oregon 97301

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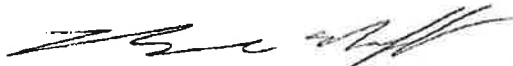
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Sincerely,



Brandon Huffman

Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
Springfield, Or

February 26, 2015

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

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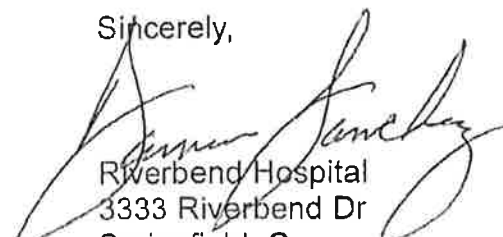
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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,


Amber Sanchez
Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
Springfield, Or

AST/CSFA
CERT# 87446

February 26, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

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Sincerely,



CST

Riverbend Hospital
3333 Riverbend Dr
Springfield, Or

February 24, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

As a physician assistant, I am writing to express my support for House Bill 2876. This legislation protects surgical patients by creating minimum education and certification requirements for newly-practicing surgical technologists. In addition to a grandfathering provision, graduates of US military programs are exempt. Rural and medically underserved health care facilities may train their own surgical technologists if the facility is unable to find an educated and certified, military-trained or grandfathered surgical technologist.

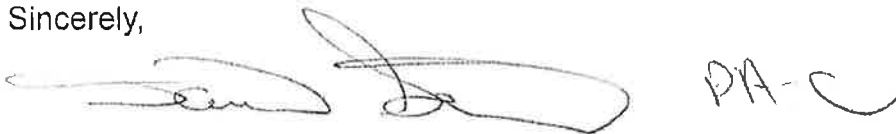
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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Damon Squart". To the right of the signature, the initials "PA-C" are written in a similar cursive style.

NW Surgical Specialists
3355 Riverbend Dr,
Springfield, Or, 97477

DAMON SQUART - P.A.

February 24, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

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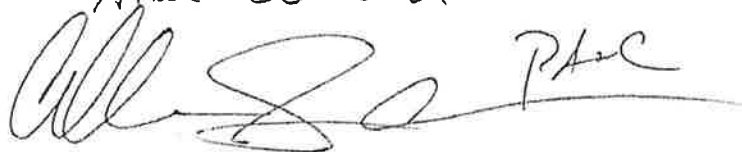
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Sincerely,

NW Surgical Specialists
3355 Riverbend Dr,
Springfield, Or, 97477

Allan Schmelzel
 PA-C

February 24, 2015

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

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

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Please support House Bill 2876.

Sincerely,

Debra Davis, CST
Adventist Medical Center
Portland, Oregon

To Whom It May Concern

March 2, 2015

I am currently a Surgical Technologist student and came across the House Bill 2876 during our class discussion. The legislation protects patients by stating that surgical techs are required a minimum level of education. This bill contains concerns for medical facilities, recognition for military training, and a grandfather provision for experienced workers. Although the state of Oregon does not need to have financial involvement, surgical technologists have to go through a certain amount of training. Research shows that continued education indicates a decrease in surgical site complications such as infections and retained objects. Surgical technologists have multiple responsibilities and it is important that their knowledge and skills are up to date. Patients have the right to receive proper care by a surgical team with a minimum education level. Since these concerns are being addressed in the legislation, I believe that House Bill 2876 will bring positive changes in the health field and provide safe patient care. I support this bill because as a student, I know that the education that I am receiving is essential for everyone on the team and especially the patient. I trust that every surgical technologist should be trained according to the standards set by the House Bill 2876 and I request that you support this bill as well.

Sincerely,

Azure Ginsberg

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Azure Ginsberg".

To Whom It May Concern

March 2, 2015

I am currently a Surgical Technologist student and came across the House Bill 2876 during our class discussion. The legislation protects patients by stating that surgical techs are required a minimum level of education. This bill contains concerns for medical facilities, recognition for military training, and a grandfather provision for experienced workers. Although the state of Oregon does not need to have financial involvement, surgical technologists have to go through a certain amount of training. Research shows that continued education indicates a decrease in surgical site complications such as infections and retained objects. Surgical technologists have multiple responsibilities and it is important that their knowledge and skills are up to date. Patients have the right to receive proper care by a surgical team with a minimum education level. Since these concerns are being addressed in the legislation, I believe that House Bill 2876 will bring positive changes in the health field and provide safe patient care. I support this bill because as a student, I know that the education that I am receiving is essential for everyone on the team and especially the patient. I trust that every surgical technologist should be trained according to the standards set by the House Bill 2876 and I request that you support this bill as well.

Sincerely,

Oksana Kovalova

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

March 2, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing you about House Bill 2876 during the 2015 legislative session. This piece of legislation is protecting patients by requiring a minimum level of education for surgical technologist. This bill includes considerations for rural facilities; there is also a grandfather provision to allow those with experience in the field to continue, as well as recognition for military training.

This bill has no fiscal implications for the state of Oregon, however it protects citizens by ensuring a level of training takes place. This is shown in studies to reduce surgical complications, mainly infections, retained foreign objects and wrong site surgeries. Surgical technologists are responsible for setting up and protecting the sterile field for surgery. They also handle and manage medications to be used in surgery, keep track of specimens, and help during the surgery itself. Patients are usually unconscious during surgery, and the vast majority is unaware that a part of their surgical team has no minimum education requirements. Currently there is a legislation being passed across the nation at the states level to address that, and I support Oregon passing HP 2876 to do so as well.

As a surgical technology student I can assure you that the education I am receiving covers a breadth and depth of surgical information that is essential for me to be prepared to serve as a surgical technologist. With all of the important information I am receiving in class, as well as clinical experience, I cannot imagine feeling comfortable as a surgical patient with a surgical technologist lacking this training.

Should I ever be a surgical patient I would absolutely want a surgical technologist who is trained to the starts set forth by HB 2876. I support HB 2876, and as that you do so as well.

Sincerely,



Jessica Burlison

March 2, 2015

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I am writing you about House Bill 2876 during the 2015 legislative session. This piece of legislation is protecting patients by requiring a minimum level of education for surgical technologist. This bill includes considerations for rural facilities; there is also a grandfather provision to allow those with experience in the field to continue, as well as recognition for military training.

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Should I ever be a surgical patient I would absolutely want a surgical technologist who is trained to the starts set forth by HB 2876. I support HB 2876, and as that you do so as well.

Sincerely,



Ishmael Sie