



Tom Chamberlain, *President*
Barbara Byrd, *Secretary-Treasurer*

3645 SE 32nd Ave,
Portland, OR 97202
www.oraficio.org

503-232-1195

afl-cio@oraficio.org

TO: Chair Monnes Anderson
Members of the Senate Committee on Healthcare

FR: The Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: Support for HB 2541

May 6th, 2015

The Oregon AFL-CIO represents over 300,000 working Oregonians and is a voice for all workers in the legislative process. As issues come before the Oregon Legislature, we can be counted on to analyze them from the perspective of a worker; safety of both workers and patients being key considerations. House Bill 2541 aims to address worker and patient safety concerns in the blood donation industry where blood donation companies are moving away from using licensed healthcare professionals on blood drives in Oregon. This trend presents a host of concerns for workers, patients and our blood supply.

This bill will help make standards more consistent in blood donation in Oregon. As new blood donation companies begin operating in our state, Oregon's nurses, other licensed health care providers, and worker advocates want to ensure new operations are subject to the same safety standards that have been in place in some parts of the industry for many years.

In addition to the overall safety concerns in the blood donation industry, the Oregon AFL-CIO also has a number of affiliate unions and allied organizations across the state that host blood drives. As hosts of blood drives, it's imperative to these organizations that all participants have a positive and safe experience that is administered by licensed healthcare professionals.

We encourage you to support HB 2541.