Passing Oregon HB 4108 (2016)
Thursday, February 04, 2016 3:47:47 PM

Dear Members of the House Health Care Committee,

I implore you to pass legislation allowing for the licensing of CAAs in Oregon. Currently, I am a second year AA student from Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, OH) with the anticipated graduation date of May 2016. Prior to entering the program I received my BS in Biochemistry and Cell and Molecular Biology at John Carroll University (University Heights, OH) and worked briefly at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation performing research in neuroscience. Initially, I considered medical school and fulfilled my premed background which included taking the MCAT. I chose not to go that route, but my preparation allowed me to enter the CWRU MSA program. That was the best decision of my life and I love my job, or rather soon to be job.

Digressing to the profession, CAAs practice within an Anesthesia Care Team to guarantee the safety of the patient by ensuring an anesthesiologist is present during patient care. This allows for two highly trained anesthesia personnel to be present when providing care to patients. In this model, the role of the CAA and CRNA is interchangeable considering our training is comparable and we are qualified to perform at least the same duties as a CRNA.

Despite not graduating yet, I am already looking for employment and would love to live on the West coast particularly in Portland. My fiancés family currently lives in Hillsdale and we would eventually like to settle in the area; however he is also a CAA currently working in Columbus, OH meaning neither of us can work in the state. Passing this legislation would mean the world to me, my fiancé, and my future family. Please take into consideration the lives that you would change for the better by passing this bill.

Thank you for your time,

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