



Chair Greenlick and Members of the House Health Care Committee,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony. I am the President-Elect of the Oregon Society of Anesthesiologists (OSA). The OSA is comprised of over 600 physicians who work to uphold the highest standards of anesthesia care and patient advocacy by promoting patient safety, research, education, and innovation in anesthesia.

I am writing to express the OSA's support for the -1 amendments to HB 2834. OSA believes that these amendments provide important protections for Oregon's most vulnerable patients.

The American Society of Anesthesiologists has developed a physical status classification system, which categorize patients based on overall health. There are six classifications, with ASA I being a normal healthy patient, and ASA VI being a brain dead patient whose organs are being removed for donor purposes. This amendment states that nurse anesthetists are only permitted to anesthetize patients in the healthiest two categories. It also requires hospital admittance privileges for physicians, which is important in the event that the procedure does not go as planned.

Anesthesiology is incredibly complicated, and physician anesthesiologists are subjected to rigorous training, including medical school and residency requirements. On average, physician anesthesiologists receive ten times the training hours than that of a certified nurse anesthetist. OSA believes that it is highly important that nurse anesthetists are appropriately limited in their scope, and that patients with the most complicated medical histories are cared for by highly trained physicians.

Please protect vulnerable Oregonians, and adopt the -1 amendments to HB 2834.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Ropp MD". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Kate Ropp
President-Elect
Oregon Society of Anesthesiologists