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Curry Family Medical
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Curry Medical Practice
94220 4th Street
Gold Beach, OR 97444
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Curry Medical West
94125 4th Street
Gold Beach, OR 97444
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MISSION

*Healthy communities in
which there is efficient,
quality health care.*



June 12, 2019

Dana Selover, MD, MPH
Oregon Health Authority
Health Care Regulation & Quality Improvement
800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 465
Portland, OR 97232

Dear Ms. Selover,

For the last four years, since the passage of HB2876 requiring Surgical Technologists practicing in Oregon to be certified, Curry Health Network has struggled to find individuals qualified to fill these roles. Currently, our organization has two positions on staff that are impacted.

Curry Health Network (CHN) reached out to our local community college about the possibility of beginning a program for Surgical Technologists but was informed that the cost is prohibitive for them to do so.

Recently, CHN learned that one of the barriers to finding or developing certified Surgical Technologists was the rule handed down by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) recognizing only one type of nationally-accredited certification.

While we support the requirement for practicing Surgical Technologists to be certified, we would advocate that OHA consider revising its current rule include recognition of both the Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) and Technologist in Surgery-Certified (TS-C) credentials. CHN's understanding is that the TS-C is recognized in 45 other states and, like the CST, is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

By allowing the use of both credentials, individual healthcare organizations including Curry Health Network would be empowered to make their own decisions as to which option is best for itself.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Virginia Razo
Chief Executive Officer

Meghan Brace, RN, BSN
Chief Nursing Officer