

Submitter: DS Johnson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3596

Dear Members of the House Committee:

Last year, I and my colleagues wrote to you to support the surgical apprenticeship bill.

This bill was supposed to have an evidence based apprenticeship system up and running right now. But we learned that because of a word in the wrong place in the bill, the policy has to be delayed.

Please pass HR3596, for the following reasons:

1) The bill is good for rural people and urban too. Rural people can't afford to move to Portland or Eugene, rent an expensive apartment and then spend two years at a community college. And with technology today, that isn't necessary. A very good education can be completed on line, which lets rural stay with their families.

2) The bill is good for people who are in poverty or communities of color. The current system is discriminating against people of color and those with limited funding. It is a system set up for people of priveledge who can afford to take 2 years off and go to college. That system doesn't work for many people. An apprenticeship, close to home, is better, saves money and will help increase the number of people who can become surgical scrub techs.

This bill is a good and very important bill. I urge you to pass it.

Thank you.