

Chairman Nosse, members of the Committee,

My name is Leia Amorelli.

I am a surgical technology student doing clinicals in my hometown of Springfield.

We oppose removing the requirement for accredited education from the current law.

I want the committee to know various examples of why surg techs are important for patient safety.

Surg techs role in the operating room is impressive. Surgical technologists serve as the surgeon's co-pilot and provide instruments and supplies to the surgeon.

In terms of medication, in other states without standards, patients have coded when undereducated surg techs don't understand the critical difference between topical epinephrine versus injectable epinephrine and safety practices related to both.

Surg tech education in accredited programs in anatomy, physiology, and medical terminology is essential during cancer cases where a surgeon might excise more 30 specimens very quickly each labeled with anatomical names you've never heard of unless you're in medicine. Proper labeling is essential to re-excising cancer in the right place if all the cancer isn't removed the first time.

If I had more time, I would also talk about surgical technologists' role in preparing surgical implants, operating complex robotic equipment, preventing fires, and the key role they play in savings live during bleeding emergencies like motorcycle accidents, but I understand there's a lot of testimony today.

Thank you so much your time.

Leia Amorelli
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