

Supporters:



And more than 400 individuals:

Nurses

Surgical Techs

CMTs

Doctors

Clinic Administrators

Community Members

Healthcare Educators

Support HB3596A

Passed Unanimously

40-0 / 10-0 House Floor & House BHHC Committee

Confirms Legislative Intent

Allows for Apprenticeship Program to Train

Surgical Techs

Your hospitals and surgery centers are facing a huge shortage of entry level SurgTechs.

These skilled professionals - - with pay starting at \$32 or more an hour - - are key to ensuring that surgeries are organized, that doctors and operating room nurses have the necessary equipment, and that rooms are sterilized and ready for the next surgery. They assist and relieve pressure on Oregon's highly skilled nurses.

A shortage means: patients must wait, and important procedures are often put off.

- ✓ HB3596A confirms the legislative intent of HB4106 (2022) and authorizes a comprehensive apprenticeship program overseen by the Oregon Health Authority and the Bureau of Labor and Industries that includes strong educational requirements (**OHA Rules, 333-076-0137**), carefully crafted paid workplace experience and rigorous testing (**NCCT TS-C Critical Skills Competency**) - - just like hundreds of similar, safe healthcare apprenticeship programs in Oregon and nationwide.
- ✓ The bill does not change or impact existing (i.e. community college) programs. They are encouraged to continue to train surgical technologist as well, and both paths are needed to fill the huge gap.
- ✓ The bill is necessary because of a drafting error made in the 2022 legislation, and the change was recommended by the Department of Justice.
- ✓ The apprenticeship program is good for rural areas, for communities of color, for individuals who cannot afford to move hundreds of miles away for a full two-year degree.



HB3596 is supported by **hospitals, surgery centers, CCOs, labor, nurses, surgical tech, healthcare educators** and hundreds of others.

SUPPORT HB3596A

Good for Patients, Good for Oregon Workers, Good for Your Communities

Contact: doug@nwpolicy.com

Supporters of Surgical Technologist Apprenticeships:

