

From:
To:
Cc:
Subject: Support of Oregon HB 4108
Date: Thursday, February 04, 2016 3:51:17 PM

Dear Members of the House Health Care Committee,

I am writing today to show my support and passion for my profession in the field of anesthesiology. I am a 20 year veteran as a Licensed Registered Respiratory Therapist and a current graduate student at South University in Savannah, GA. I am enrolled in the Masters of Medical Science in Anesthesia Science. The AA program is a very competitive program requiring above average grades, documented hours spent shadowing in anesthesiology, the submission of an anesthesiology essay from a accredited journal, and the completion of the GRE or MCAT. After one applies they must be invited to interview. The interview is conducted by a panel of at least 6 professional, all in the field of anesthesiology, and from there you are chosen to join the class based on your knowledge of the field and your drive to succeed in a 27 month long accelerated didactic and clinical program. I was accepted and am writing in hopes of furthering future opportunities for me and my profession.

Having a extensive medical background at a leading University, I know the importance of highly skilled professionals working together as a team for the common goal of superior patient care and safety. Following The Anesthesia Care Team model we are putting those safety mechanisms into practice. This model ensures all patients have a Board Certified Anesthesiologist available for every cases along with a highly trained anesthetist assisting throughout the procedure. These highly trained anesthetists are CAA and CRNA.

There is a shortage of anesthesia providers across our nation, CAA's and CRNA's are both highly qualified professionals that are able to fill the same roles within the Anesthesia Care Team. The licensure of CAA's in Oregon would help lessen the shortage and help ensure the people of Oregon receive the highest level of anesthesia care by the most qualified professionals.

I recently visited friends in the Pacific Northwest, and I not only fell in love with the diversity of the land, but also the high desert climate. My week was packed with, hiking in the mountains, biking the Hiawatha, camping in a rustic campground, and kayaking to a remote lake. The massive mountain ranges blanketing the horizon were breathtaking, I have never experienced such awe in nature. It would be amazing if I had the option to practice in Oregon after graduation, not only would my employment opportunities escalate but the diversification of where I could live and work would considerably surpass anything I had imagined.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Angela L Pittman RRT, AA-s