

From: [Jason diMonda](#)
To: [ThieleCirka Sandy](#)
Subject: Requesting Support of HB 4108
Date: Thursday, February 04, 2016 5:21:25 PM

Dear Members of the House Health Care Committee,

My name is Jason diMonda and I am a Certified Anesthesiologist Assistant (CAA). First, I would like to say how much I love the state of Oregon! I vacationed there two years ago and spent a lot of time outdoors. The fact that we have rain forests in this country thrilled me! The Pacific Northwest is such a unique region of the country that I had to see it to appreciate it. It's great that almost 50% of the state is still forested. What I also like is the desert region on the east side. These facts make me feel that Oregon is one of the most beautiful states in this country.

All of the above makes Oregon a great place for me to visit, but as a healthcare professional I am unable to work in Oregon as a CAA. I believe CAAs should be able to work within the Anesthesia Care Team alongside Anesthesiologists in Oregon, just as we are able to work in 17 other states. This team model ensures a Physician Anesthesiologist is present during the care of every patient undergoing an anesthetic. Having patients receive quality care by two well trained providers is an efficient and safe model that has been used in the United States for several decades. This team model currently exists in Oregon with Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA) and Anesthesiologists. The addition of CAA licensure to Oregon would be beneficial because CAAs and CRNAs fill the same role and there is a shortage of anesthesia providers in the United States.

I have graduated within the past few years, so I can attest to the rigorous level of education and training that myself and all other graduates received. I have now safely administered thousands of anesthetics over the past 3 years as a CAA in the state of Georgia. My Bachelor of Science degree was in Biology and all CAA's are required to have a bachelor's degree. Along with a bachelor's degree, we must complete a pre-medical curriculum and score competitively on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) or the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). These stringent requirements are very similar for students applying to Medical School and Physician Assistant school.

After I was accepted into AA school, I trained for 28 months alongside other CAAs, CRNAs, and Anesthesiologists. CAAs train for over 2,600 hours in hospitals and administer several hundred anesthetics to sick and healthy patients. Our classroom and laboratory education entailed over 600 hours of courses taught by CAAs and Anesthesiologists with many years of experience providing safe anesthesia care in clinical settings.

I just realized I took a sip of my drink from a coaster that I got when I traveled to Silver Falls State Park in Oregon! I am requesting your support of HB 4108 so we have the ability to work and enjoy everything Oregon has to offer Americans.

Thank you,

Jason diMonda, CAA