

From: [Caroline Horn](#)
To: [ThieleCirka Sandy](#)
Cc: Lindsay.Maxwell@politics.org
Subject: support of HB 4108
Date: Friday, February 05, 2016 4:42:28 AM

Dear Members of the House Health Care Committee,

Because both my husband and I are CAAs, we are so excited to hear that this bill is before your committee. Approximately 15 years ago, each of us spent a month in Portland at OHSU Hospital as a rotation for our training. Our connection to Oregon was through my husband's father who has lived in Oregon for about 15-20 years. Over the years, we've hoped that Oregon would license CAAs so that we would have a chance to live and work in your beautiful state.

Both my husband and I attended Emory University where we received our Master of Medical Science degrees. As you may or may not know, CAAs often come from diverse backgrounds. In my class of 20 students, we had four respiratory therapists, two EMTs, one physical therapist, and one veterinarian. I was the veterinarian. All of us had bachelor's degrees, but I also have a DVM and practiced as a vet for 10 years prior to opting for a career change. The AA programs around the country are 24-28 months long and are associated with medical schools that have anesthesiology residency programs. These programs average over 600 hours of classroom/lab time and 2,600 hours of clinical time. Many programs send their students to multiple different hospitals over the 2+ years. As for myself and my husband, each of us went to 13 different clinical sites, including OHSU. Couple that with the broad backgrounds and it makes for a group of individuals with interesting and varied professional experiences.

One point that needs to be mentioned is that CAAs work only within the Anesthesia Care Team model. We do not work as solo practitioners. Instead, working along side an anesthesiologist is integral to the way we practice. As CAAs, we believe the care team approach is the safest way to practice anesthesia, ensuring the best care of our patients by two professionally trained anesthesia providers.

Thank you for your careful consideration of HB 4108. I hope that we may practice in Oregon in the near future.

Sincerely,

Caroline Horn