

Submitter: Amanda Minor  
On Behalf Of: all surgical patients  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure: HB4106

Dear Senate Committee Members,

It is imperative that you vote "No" on HB4106 in order to protect Oregon's future surgical patients. I have been a Certified Surgical Technologist for over 20 years and see this as a giant leap backwards in the field and for patient safety. As a Certified Surgical Technologist, I have been trained with an Associate of Science, majoring in Surgical Technology and have a Bachelor's Degree in Science as well. In the operative field, I am tasked with insuring the safety of each patient. This knowledge comes from rigorous lab, didactic, and clinical training that quite frankly, an apprentice just does not offer. It is not just how to do the job but why we do it that is so important in preventing surgical errors, infections, and even death. We are working hand in hand, alongside the surgeons on the most advanced cases and have a direct impact on the outcome for each patient. Just because the majority of the population has never heard of a Surgical Technologist, does not make it any less of an important role than the other positions in the surgical setting. I will close with a question...if you are the one on the operating room table, would you prefer a Certified Surgical Technologist who has met all of the required learning components of an extensive training program or one who was been rushed through an apprentice just to fill a position?