

Chairman Nosse, members of the Committee,

My name is Amy Makarenko.

I am a surgical technologist in Tigard, Oregon.

We oppose making changes to the surgical technologist law this session. House Bill 3596 was introduced at the 11th hour and removes from the current law that surgical technologists graduate from an accredited surgical technology program, even with the amendment.

Not only is accredited education essential for surgical patient safety, but also it was the promise that allowed for other compromises during the last session.

Accredited surgical technology programs appropriately reflect the content needed to learn surgical technology.

There is so much I have learned in program that's critical for my safety, the safety of my coworkers and patient safety that I could not have learned otherwise. Accreditation ensures that the curriculum covers everything to protect me and my patients.

I've learned anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, infection control practices, safety practices, hemostasis principles, electric and laser safety, legal responsibilities, hazard communication, many, many more topics, and of course, instrumentation, supplies, and most importantly, patient safety considerations in general surgery, OB-GYN, orthopedics, urology, cardiothoracic, ENT, plastic and reconstructive, vascular, ophthalmic, spine, neurosurgery, endoscopic and robotic-assisted surgery.

Thank you for your time.

Amy Makarenko, Certified Surgical Technologist
Tigard, Oregon