Letterhead

I am an anesthesiologist at XYZ Hospital in , Wisconsin. I work closely with surgical technologists in our operating room. Surgical technologists are essential to the work I do as they ensure every instrument needed for surgery is in the room and are essential for patient safety. Surgical technologists have detailed knowledge of surgical instruments, set-up the operating room, and they pass the instruments throughout the surgery as the surgeon focuses on the surgical site. In addition, they are the eyes and ears of the surgery – counting supplies to ensure none are left behind, ensuring sterile technique throughout the procedure, working fast when excess bleeding occurs, preventing surgical fires, and having the knowledge to ensure there are no medication errors during the surgery.

The operating room is a fast-paced environment where every action counts. I need surgical technologists to be perfectly prepared, think on their feet, be organized, cool under pressure, understand the surgeon’s needs and actions and to have the knowledge and presence to be in the operating room.

I prefer to work with surgical technologists who have completed an accredited surgical technology program and to be nationally certified. Through this education they will obtain an associate degree with thorough didactic education and skills labs before they see the inside of an operating room. Their education will also provide them with clinical training in diverse specialties before graduating.

This legislation would require health care facilities to verify credentials of surgical technologists upon hire, including that surgical technologists will need to prove that they graduated from an accredited surgical technology program and are certified by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting. This is important for patient safety and the fact that I want someone who is knowledgeable, prepared, and calm to be in the operating room with me. I am in favor of this legislation and believe it will enhance patient safety in our healthcare facilities.

Dr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Good Samaritan Hospital

123 Everywhere place

Everywhere town, CO

Phone number

email