Letterhead

I am a surgeon at XYZ Hospital in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Wisconsin. I work closely with surgical technologists in our operating room. Surgical technologists are essential to my work as they have detailed knowledge of my surgical instruments, set up the operating room for me, and pass the instruments throughout the surgery as I focus on the surgical site. In addition, they are the eyes and ears of the operating room – 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 my surgical technologist to be perfectly prepared, think on their feet, be organized, understand my surgical needs and actions, and 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 are nationally certified. Through this education, they will obtain an associate degree with comprehensive 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.

HB xxxx would require healthcare facilities to verify the 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 I want someone knowledgeable, prepared, and calm to be in the operating room with me. I favor HB xxxx and believe it will enhance patient safety in our healthcare facilities.

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

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