



May 18, 2023

The Honorable Robert Menendez
United States Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boozman, OD
United States Senate
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Menendez and Boozman:

On behalf of the more than 87,000 members of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), thank you for introducing the Prevent Blood Loss with Emergency Equipment Devices (BLEEDing) Act (S. 1653) in the U.S. Senate. This legislation is a critical first step in empowering civilians to take life-saving action when the need arises, regardless of the situation or cause of bleeding. The ACS Committee on Trauma (COT) was founded in 1922 to develop and implement programs that support injury prevention and ensure optimal patient outcomes across the continuum of care. In keeping with that mission, the COT created the STOP THE BLEED® campaign in 2015 to prepare the public to save lives by teaching three quick actions to control serious bleeding.

More than 2000,000 people die each year from traumatic injuries sustained from events such as vehicle crashes, falls, industrial and farm accidents, shootings, and natural disasters. Uncontrolled bleeding is the number one cause of preventable death from trauma, and victims of severe bleeding can die within five-to-ten minutes. S. 1653 creates a grant program within the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) to provide anti-blood loss supplies for use in a medical emergency and implement training on bleeding control techniques. To prevent a scenario where a poorly made device might fail and not adequately stop severe bleeding, ACS believes that the grant program should ensure that eligible entities are procuring only high-quality tourniquets and other bleeding control supplies, such as products approved by the Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) and the Department of Defense (DoD) Combat Casualty Research Program.

With more than 45 million Americans living an hour or more away from a Level I or II trauma center, it is vital more than ever that every day Americans learn how to control bleeding. Just like with CPR training, a civilian familiar with basic bleeding control techniques is better equipped to save a life. The legislation drives the goal of reducing or eliminating preventable deaths from bleeding and will teach the critically important skills needed to save lives. ACS strongly supports the Prevent BLEEDing Act and thanks you for your continued leadership in introducing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

facs.org

CHICAGO HEADQUARTERS
633 N. Saint Clair Street
Chicago, IL 60611-3295
T 312-202-5000
F 312-202-5001
E-mail: postmaster@facs.org

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Turner", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Patricia L. Turner, MD, MBA, FACS
Executive Director & CEO

WASHINGTON OFFICE
20 F Street NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20001
T 202-337-2701
F 202-337-4271
E-mail: ahp@facs.org