



September 8, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
1021 O St., Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: SB 1475 (Glazer) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood and/or platelets. Approximately 29,000 units of red blood cells, 5,000 units of platelets, and 6,500 units of plasma are needed daily in the U.S.

That's why the California Hospital Association (CHA) supports Senate Bill (SB) 1475, which would permanently authorize a registered nurse to be either physically present or available via telehealth during blood collection at a blood bank.

Local blood banks have proven during the COVID-19 pandemic that blood can be safely collected with qualified, trained staff who have access to a registered nurse via telehealth when consultations are needed. California's hemovigilance data are consistent with nationwide figures showing that trained blood center staff can manage any donor reaction without the presence of a registered nurse on site.

COVID-19 has severely impacted traditional means of collecting blood at school and business-based mobile events and caused significant workforce and supply shortages. During a time of such significant strain on our blood supply, this telehealth option has aided in the collection of thousands of units of additional blood in California.

Without this legislation, California would once again be the only state in the nation requiring a registered nurse to be physically present while blood is being collected from healthy donors. This is a requirement that neither the Food and Drug Administration nor the Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies demand. Requiring a registered nurse to be on site unnecessarily compounds the severe shortage of registered nurses facing the state, our hospitals, and the entire country.

For these reasons, CHA and its more than 400 hospital and health system members respectfully ask for your signature on SB 1475.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vanessa Gonzalez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vanessa Gonzalez  
Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Steve Glazer  
Tam Ma, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor