



Hello Fellow Surgical Technologists! As you know PA-AST has been successful in officially introducing legislation in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. House Bill 1805 (HB1805) recommends education and competency standards for new surgical technologists entering the profession and would require hospitals (*going forward*) to employ surgical techs who: **(1)** graduate from an accredited surgical technology program **and (2)** earn and maintain the Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) credential from the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA).

If you haven't had the opportunity to read Pennsylvania House Bill 1805, sponsored by Representative Judy Ward, please do so by following this link:

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/billInfo/billInfo.cfm?sYear=2017&slnd=0&body=H&type=B&bn=1805>.

Our Lobbyists, Andy Goodman and Mike Kriner, have been diligently working on our behalf. Team PA has been plugging away as well with the guidance of AST's Director of Government Affairs, Stephanie Whalum.

Now that we have active legislation we need your help! Team PA-AST will begin a grassroots campaign in early 2018. A grassroots effort means our members will be directly contacting legislators to convey our message.

Team PA-AST is asking for 50-100 of you to find out who your House Representative is and to contact the Representative — in person, by phone, or by letter — to educate them about our profession and how our bill promotes patient safety. Do not be afraid to contact your Representative — they work for YOU! If you do not know who your House Representative is you can identify them by following this link: [www.legis.state.pa.us](http://www.legis.state.pa.us).

Our mission is clear and Team PA-AST will need all boots on the ground in 2018! We owe this to our profession to be recognized and, most importantly, to convey to lawmakers what the communities of patients that we serve daily throughout Pennsylvania deserve. Please join Team PA-AST and contact your legislators! Please email Gary Gower, your PA-AST Secretary, at [secretarypaast@gmail.com](mailto:secretarypaast@gmail.com) with your name, your legislator's name and your district!

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Peterson, CST  
President PA-AST

[pa.ast.org](http://pa.ast.org)

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