



Saving Lives. Improving Care. Empowering Survivors.

February 20, 2020

The Honorable Robert Menendez
United States Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
United States Senate
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Menendez and Boozman;

On behalf of the membership of the American Trauma Society (ATS), we offer our support of the *Prevent Blood Loss with Emergency Equipment Devices (BLEEDing) Act of 2020*. The ATS supports strengthening the role of the public in controlling bleeding and saving lives. We believe that this legislation engages civilians as part of an out of hospital trauma team in the management of life-threatening bleeding. The ATS is a 51-year-old organization with over 2300 members focused on preventing injuries, improving care and empowering survivors. All efforts to support Stop the Bleed efforts align with the mission of the ATS.

Each year, over 180,000 people die from injuries sustained as a result of traumatic events. Those events, include but not limited to motor-vehicle crashes, falls, industrial incidents (including farms), shootings, and disasters. The ATS works to prevent traumatic injuries, however, should an incident take place, we need to best position the public to take a role in life saving. Our experience tells us that members of the public are capable of this work as they have played a key role in providing life-saving care including deploying CPR, Automated External Defibrillators, Epinephrine Pens and Narcan. This legislation would support the extending the role the civilians play in bleeding control by funding the purchase of proper equipment and supporting training the public needs to prevent hemorrhage from taking lives.

As you know, this legislation would fund training and make bleeding control kits available to the public through a Department of Homeland Security grant program.

The ATS strongly supports the *Prevent Blood Loss with Emergency Equipment Devices (BLEEDing) Act of 2020*. We appreciate your leadership on this issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anna Newcomb".

Anna Newcomb, PhD, MSW, LCSW
President, American Trauma Society

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Suzanne M. Prentiss".

Suzanne M. Prentiss, BA, MPA, NRP
Executive Director, American Trauma Society

The American Trauma Society

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