



Dear Senators Menendez and Boozman,

The Society of Trauma Nurses (STN) commends you for introducing the *Prevent Blood Loss with Emergency Equipment Devices (BLEEDing) Act of 2020*. The STN, the premier organization representing trauma nurses across the continuum of care and across the globe, has partnered with the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (ACS-COT) and the United States Department of Homeland Security to advocate for this important policy, since its inception. The Society of Trauma Nurses enthusiastically endorses the *Prevent BLEEDing Act* and looks forward to working with members of Congress and the healthcare community to enact its provisions.

Adding the use of bleeding control equipment, such as tourniquets, to the techniques taught along with CPR and basic first aid will better equip civilians to help save lives. With the increased public attention on mass casualty events, now is the time to integrate this training into existing curriculum. This is a valuable opportunity to better educate the public on the latest techniques.

According to a study published in the American College of Surgeons (ACS) only 36% of those surveyed felt comfortable applying a tourniquet fearing damage to a patients limb.<sup>1</sup> However, current experience from the wars in Afghanistan and in Iraq show that the benefits far outweigh the risks.<sup>2</sup> Providing bleeding control training to the general public is the best way to achieve the goal of reducing or eliminating preventable death by bleeding.

Thank you for championing the provision of the training and tools necessary for civilians to take action to help control traumatic bleeding, in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress, through the *Prevent BLEEDing Act*. Please contact Adam Haley at [ahaley@traumanurses.org](mailto:ahaley@traumanurses.org) if STN can assist your efforts to advance this legislation in any way.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Mattocks, MSN, RN". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah Mattocks, MSN, FNP-C, TCRN, NE-BC  
President

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

Cristy Meyer MSN, RN, CEN, TCRN  
Chair, Government Affairs & Public Policy Committee

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<sup>1</sup> The Hartford Consensus: A National Survey of the Public Regarding Bleeding Control Jacobs, Lenworth M. et al., Journal of the American College of Surgeons , Volume 222 , Issue 5 , 948 - 955

<sup>2</sup> Kragh, J.F., Walters, T.J., Baer, D.G. et al. Practical use of emergency tourniquets to stop bleeding in major limb Trauma. J Trauma. 2008; 64: S38-S50