

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Bill S.165 at the Senate Health and Welfare Committee on February 14.

I support the proposed changes on the grounds that a pre-employment screening is completed for the purpose of confirming an individual can perform the essential functions of the position, with or without reasonable accommodation. In a hospital setting, it is also necessary to screen for communicable disease to protect both the patient and the employee.

The impact of the proposed changes would allow for an appropriate category of licensed health care professional to complete the assessment. A Registered Nurse (under the direction of a physician or advanced practitioner) can perform the immunology review, order labs, administer vaccines and review medical history to assess whether they can perform the functions of the position. If the screening indicated, further physical examination would be completed by a physician or advance practice registered nurse.

I look forward to learning the outcome of the Committee's review.

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