

ALISON MIZNER

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Mr. Chairperson and committee members, my name is Alison Mizner and I currently am the chairperson for the Board of Clinical Laboratory Practitioners. I am writing this letter as a member of the public and a clinical laboratory scientist who has been licensed by the State of Montana for the last 17 years.

I had planned on attending the meeting scheduled with your committee in person, but in the last week have found out that my mother has a tumor which requires immediate surgery. This now makes me look at the need for licensure from a different perspective, one of a family member of a patient whose health and well being is being entrusted into the care of licensed healthcare workers in our state. I gain some comfort in knowing that Montana sets the bar higher for those practicing laboratory medicine and other healthcare occupations by recognizing the need for licensure.

It is very important that laboratory tests be performed by highly trained and educated individuals. These tests could have dire consequences if performed incorrectly. For example, if my mother needs a blood transfusion during surgery, the wrong type of blood may cause the death of the patient. I am confident that this testing is currently being performed by a highly qualified, trained, and licensed clinical laboratory scientists.

The purpose of having state boards is to protect the health and welfare of Montana's citizens. If there ever was a perfect example of this, it is with laboratory testing and it's practitioners. Please continue to require licensure and insure the health and well-being of fellow Montanans.

Sincerely yours,

Alison Mizner CLS, MT(ASCP)