



THE
COMMITTEE
ON **TRAUMA**



August 23, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the Committee on Trauma of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), we are writing to share our support for Assembly Bill 2260 Emergency Response: Trauma Kits. This legislation will provide access to life saving bleeding control kits when traumatic bleeding injury occurs.

In 2022, the ACS Committee on Trauma (COT) is celebrating its 100th Anniversary. We have worked steadily to eliminate preventable injury death and disability across the United States and around the world and have utilized data and expertise to develop programs that save lives, such as STOP THE BLEED.[®] Using the lessons learned from the US military's use of bleeding control tourniquets and gauze on the battlefield, we created the STOP THE BLEED[®] campaign to train everyday citizens on how they can help save a life by stopping the bleed.

After traumatic injury, every minute that bleeding is stopped increases the chances of patient survival.

Today, the STOP THE BLEED[®] campaign has trained more than 1.8 million people to use a bleeding control kit to stop traumatic bleeding injury. In California, STOP THE BLEED[®] has trained over 100,000 individuals and has over 4,500 instructors providing regular training weekly.

Installing bleeding control kits in buildings and public places ensures that people who have been trained in STOP THE BLEED[®] have access to the kits when they are most needed. A traumatic bleeding injury can happen at any moment.

Lifesaving bleeding control kits have been installed in some in California locales. Los Angeles International Airport was the first major US airport to install bleeding control kits, followed by San Diego International Airport. Cal State Long Beach, the San Diego Convention Center, UC San Diego Health, San Diego County, and the City of Chula Vista have installed bleeding control kits alongside AEDs in their facilities as well.

Assembly Bill 2260 is needed to help save lives.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Kerby, MD PhD FACS
Chair, ACS Committee on Trauma

Eileen M. Bulger, MD FACS
Medical Director, Trauma Programs
American College of Surgeons