



America's Blood Centers®
It's About *Life.*

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June 9, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Jeffries, Minority Leader Schumer,

As we enter Blood Advocacy Week 2025, over 100 organizations are joining forces to urge action in support of our nation's blood supply. We encourage you to prioritize our nation's blood supply and take key steps to ensure that blood is always available for every patient in need. This includes taking the following steps:

1. Time is of the essence when it comes to blood transfusions following traumatic injuries. One study found up to five percent increased odds of mortality for every minute of delay in access to blood. However, without sufficient reimbursement for the cost of having blood available for patients in need, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) cannot provide life-saving transfusions. **I urge you to support report language to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to update TRICARE payment policy to remove financial barriers and allow for broader adoption of prehospital blood transfusions, supporting TRICARE's mission to improve the health of the military and their families which, in turn, helps support the security of the United States.**
2. Blood centers are the lifeblood of our nation's healthcare system, ensuring a safe and sufficient blood supply for patients in need. These vital organizations serve our health care system, supporting everything from routine surgeries to emergency trauma responses. Yet, in an increasingly digital world, blood centers face a new and formidable challenge: sophisticated cyberattacks. Recent incidents have exposed the vulnerability of these critical institutions to malicious actors, with potentially devastating consequences, including disruptions to blood collection and distribution processes, cancelation of elective surgeries, delays in non-emergency patient care due to diminished blood supplies, significant financial losses, and operational setbacks. **To address this urgent issue, I urge you to support robust funding for the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and ensure blood centers are considered in efforts to ensure health care information technology infrastructure is strengthened to prevent potential attacks.**
3. Government regulations impose unnecessary and burdensome barriers on blood centers. By implementing changes to these regulations, we can enhance blood product availability for patients in need, reduce unnecessary costs and resource allocations, and support innovation in blood banking and

transfusion medicine. **To modernize America’s blood supply chain, save more lives, and improve healthcare outcomes across the nation, we ask that you urge the Administration to cut red tape and remove burdensome barriers, including streamlining licensure for new donation sites, modernizing testing requirements to match modern testing technology, maximizing the platelet donations that can be used for patient care, and increasing plasma regulation flexibility.**

We appreciate your attention to this critical matter and eagerly await your prompt reply. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Calmus (202-654-2988, dcalmus@americasblood.org), Vice President of Government Affairs at America’s Blood Centers. Together, let’s make strengthening America’s blood supply a national priority.

Sincerely,

ADRP: The Association for Blood Donor Professionals	Abbott
Alliance for Community Transfusion Services (ACTS)	American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society of Hematology	American Trauma Society
America’s Blood Centers	Association for the Advancement of Blood & Biotherapies (AABB)
Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives	Blood Assurance
Blood Bank of Alaska	Blood Bank of Delmarva
Blood Bank of Hawaii	Blood Centers of America
Bloodworks Northwest	BorderRAC
Carter BloodCare	Centerlink
Central California Blood Center	Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank
Cerus	Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Coastal Bend Blood Center	Colorado Whole Blood Coalition
Community Blood Bank	Community Blood Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania & Western New York
Community Blood Center	Community Blood Center (Appleton)
Community Blood Center of the Ozarks	ConnectLife
Connecticut Blood Center	Crescent Foundation
Delcon	Elks

FCI Brands	Fresenius Kabi
GLAAD	Georgia Health Policy Center
GoodLabs	Grifols
Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center	HOSA Future Health Professionals
Healthcare-ID	Hemanext
Houchin Community Blood Bank	Hoxworth Blood Center
Human Rights Campaign	ImpactLife
Incept Health	Inova Blood Donor Services
International Trauma Life Support	Kentucky Blood Center
LIFELINE Blood Services	La Boit Specialty Vehicles Inc.
LifeFactors	LifeFlow
LifeServe Blood Center	LifeShare Blood Center
LifeSouth Community Blood Centers	LifeStream
MEDIC Regional Blood Center	Macopharma
Memorial Blood Centers	Miller-Keystone Blood Center
Mississippi Blood Services	National Bleeding Disorders Foundation
National Blood Testing Cooperative	Nebraska Community Blood Bank
New Jersey Blood Services	New York Blood Center
North Arundel County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated	Northern California Community Blood Bank
OneBlood	Our Blood Institute
Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency International Alliance	Rhode Island Blood Center
Roche	Rock River Valley Blood Center
San Diego Blood Bank	SaveLivez
Shepard Community Blood Center	Sick Cells

Sickle Cell Foundation of Minnesota

South Texas Regional Advisory Council

SunCoast Blood Centers

Texoma Regional Blood Center

The Blood Center (New Orleans)

The Institute for Health Research & Policy at
Whitman-Walker

Trauma Survivors Network

University Blood Initiative

Versiti

We Are Blood

South Texas Blood & Tissue

Stanford Blood Center

Terumo Blood and Cell Technologies

Thalassemia International Federation

The Blood Connection

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

UCI Health Blood Donor Center

University Hospital EMS in Newark, New Jersey

Vitalant

Western Kentucky Regional Blood Center