

June 8, 2026

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 2026, over 100 organizations across the country are joining forces in support of our nation's blood supply. We urge you to prioritize three critical actions to ensure that blood is always available for every patient in need.

1. **Support Prehospital Blood Transfusion Access for Military Beneficiaries.** Time is of the essence following traumatic injury. Research has found up to five percent increase in mortality odds for every minute of delay in accessing blood. Yet, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers face significant financial barriers that limit their ability to carry and administer blood in the field. We urge you to support report language in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) directing the Department of Defense to update TRICARE payment policy to remove these financial barriers, enabling broader adoption of prehospital blood transfusions and strengthening care for servicemembers, veterans, and their families.
2. **Strengthen Cybersecurity Protections for the Blood Community.** Blood centers are an essential infrastructure within our nation's healthcare system, ensuring a safe and sufficient blood supply for patients in need. These vital organizations support everything from routine surgeries to emergency trauma responses. Recent cyberattacks have exposed the vulnerability of these institutions resulting in disruptions to blood collection and distribution processes, cancelation of elective surgeries, delays in non-emergency patient care and significant financial and operational harm. We urge you to support robust funding for the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and ensure blood centers are explicitly included in federal efforts to strengthen health care information technology infrastructure against malicious actors.
3. **Modernize Blood Banking Regulations to Improve Patient Access.** Outdated government regulations impose unnecessary and burdensome barriers that limit blood product availability, increase costs, and impede innovation at blood centers. We urge you to call on the Administration to streamline licensure for new donation sites, modernize testing requirements to reflect current testing technology, maximize the platelet donations available for patient care, and increase flexibility in plasma regulation. Licensure flexibility, reflected in the BLOOD Centers Act (H.R. 5791), would modernize America's blood supply chain, save lives, and improve health care outcomes nationwide.

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We appreciate your leadership on these priorities. For questions or additional information, please contact Susan N. Leppke, Vice President, Government and Public Affairs (202-654-2988, [sleppke@americasblood.org](mailto:sleppke@americasblood.org)).

Sincerely,

AABB

ADRP: The Association for Blood Donor Professionals

Alliance for Community Transfusion Services (ACTS)

America's Blood Centers

American Society of Hematology

American Society for Clinical Pathology

Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives

American Trauma Society

Blood Assurance

Blood Bank of Alaska

Blood Bank of Delmarva

Blood Bank of Hawaii

Blood Centers of America

Bloodworks Northwest

BorderRAC

Carter BloodCare

Central California Blood Center

Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank

Centerlink

Cerus

Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Civil Air Patrol

Crescent Foundation

Coastal Bend Blood Center

Colorado Whole Blood Coalition

Community Blood Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania & Western New York

Community Blood Center

Community Blood Center (Appleton)

Community Blood Center of the Ozarks

Connecticut Blood Center

ConnectLife

Delta Development Team, Inc.

Elks

FCI Brands

Fresenius Kabi

GLAAD

Grifols

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center

Healthcare-ID

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Hemanext  
HOSA Future Health Professionals  
Houchin Community Blood Bank  
Hoxworth Blood Center  
Human Rights Campaign  
ImpactLife  
Incept Health  
International Trauma Life Support  
Inova Blood Donor Services  
Johnson and Johnson  
Kentucky Blood Center  
La Boit Specialty Vehicles Inc.  
LifeFactors  
LifeFlow  
LIFELINE Blood Services  
LifeServe Blood Center  
LifeShare Blood Center  
LifeSouth Community Blood Centers  
LifeStream  
Macopharma  
MEDIC Regional Blood Center  
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  
Northern California Community Blood Bank  
North Arundel County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated  
OneBlood  
Our Blood Institute  
Operation Pulse Lift  
Prehospital Blood Transfusion Coalition  
Rhode Island Blood Center  
Roche  
Rock River Valley Blood Center  
San Diego Blood Bank  
Stanford Blood Center  
Shepard Community Blood Center  
Sickle Cell Foundation of Minnesota  
Sick Cells  
South Texas Blood & Tissue  
South Texas Regional Advisory Council  
SunCoast Blood Centers

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Thalassemia International Federation  
Terumo Blood and Cell Technologies  
The Blood Center (New Orleans)  
The Blood Connection  
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Thrive with Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency Organization  
Trauma Survivors Network  
UCI Health Blood Donor Center  
University Blood Initiative  
University Hospital EMS in Newark, New Jersey  
Velico  
Versiti  
Vitalant  
We Are Blood  
Western Kentucky Regional Blood Center  
Whitman-Walker Health