



New York State  
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES  
FEDERATION AFL-CIO  
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT  
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# ***SUPPORT***

**April 14, 2008**  
**S1608\Maziarz**  
**A1206A\Gunther**

The New York State Public Employees Federation, representing 58,000 Professional, Scientific, and Technical workers of New York State, supports this legislation.

Although unsung, a key member of the surgical team is the circulating nurse, who is ultimately charged with ensuring patient safety. Among there many duties, circulating nurses manage the nursing care of the patient in the operating room and assess the patient's condition before, during, and after the surgery.

This bill amends the public health law to require that a registered nurse, qualified by training and experience in operating room nursing, be present as a circulating nurse in each and every operating room in which surgery is being performed. It is critical that a highly skilled and able circulating nurse be present in all surgeries to serve as the patient's advocate, when the patient can't look out for his/her own wellbeing.

For these reasons, the Public Employees Federation urges you to support this legislation.

For more information, please contact:

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