

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 2019

May is National Stop the Bleed Month!

**Help Expand Access to Emergency Blood Loss Prevention Equipment by
Cosponsoring H.R.2550, the *Prevent BLEEDing Act***

Endorsed by: The American College of Surgeons (ACS) and the Society of Trauma Nurses

Dear Colleague:

Did you know that May 2019 is the first ever Stop the Bleed Month, and May 23rd will be recognized as Stop the Bleed Day?

Approximately 214,000 people die every year from traumatic incidents. Motor vehicle crashes, shootings, natural disasters, and workplace accidents, to name just a few, oftentimes result in situations where people suffer traumatic blood loss. Such an injury can lead to death within five minutes, but can oftentimes be prevented.

As we observe Stop the Bleed Month, we write to invite you to cosponsor H.R.2550, the *Prevent Blood Loss with Emergency Equipment Devices Act of 2019* (the *Prevent BLEEDing Act*), legislation that would expand access to Bleeding Control Kits (BCKs) in public gathering places across the country.

Our legislation amends the *Homeland Security Act of 2002* to make it easier for states to apply for funding for BCKs through the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP). By doing so, we will facilitate distribution of BCKs at schools, libraries, places of worship, concert venues, shopping malls, and any other place where people gather, while providing staff and volunteers at these facilities with the necessary training to utilize the materials. By making these materials more accessible during times of disaster, bystanders with little or no medical training can save lives when confronted with traumatic injury, similar to the use of CPR or automatic defibrillators (AEDs).

If you have any questions or would like to cosponsor this bill, please contact Evan Polisar in Congressman Hastings' office at Evan.Polisar@mail.house.gov (ext. 5-1313) or Greg Brooks in Congressman Wenstrups' office at Greg.Brooks@mail.house.gov (ext. 5-3164).

Sincerely,



Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

Brad Wenstrup
Member of Congress