Dear Senator,

I am writing to ask you to support the Senate public Bill S-252 (Voluntary Blood Donations Act).

Bill S-252 will ban the private sale of blood from coast to coast to coast and ensure blood and plasma are a public resource to be safeguarded and protected.

Health Canada and some provinces have allowed a private, for-profit company to open its doors and pay people for their blood plasma, making it the first body part in Canada allowed for sale. This for-profit route jeopardizes Canada’s supply of blood products.

Canada is only the fourth country in the world to pay people for their plasma. The payment of donors goes against the advice of major international health organizations like the World Health Organization. It also goes against the advice of the Krever Inquiry which looked into ways to ensure that Canada never experienced a catastrophe like the 1980’s tainted blood scandal.

Passing Bill S-252 is an important step to ensure everyone in Canada has access to sufficient blood supply. While the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec have passed similar legislations, S-252 would make it a national standard.

I would also encourage you to make a public statement about the need for everyone to be a good citizen and sign up to become voluntary blood and plasma donors. This simple gesture is so important and can save the lives of those in need.

I am looking forward to your response.

[name and contact information]