

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 245 Session of 2012

INTRODUCED BY M. WHITE, VANCE, ERICKSON, PIPPY, BROWNE,
WASHINGTON, YAW, WARD, COSTA, KASUNIC, STACK, DINNIMAN,
FONTANA, FERLO, BREWSTER, ROBBINS, BAKER, GREENLEAF, SOLOBAY,
ORIE, RAFFERTY, PILEGGI AND ALLOWAY, JANUARY 23, 2012

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JANUARY 23, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of January 22 through 28, 2012, as "Nurse
2 Anesthetists Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Nurse anesthetists were the first professional group
4 to provide anesthesia in the United States and are the oldest
5 recognized group of advanced practice registered nurse
6 specialists; and

7 WHEREAS, These registered nurses have completed a graduate-
8 level educational program in a nationally accredited program of
9 nurse anesthesia, and after graduation are qualified to take the
10 national certifying examination; and

11 WHEREAS, Graduates who successfully pass the examination can
12 use the title, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA),
13 and, in addition, all graduates of nurse anesthesia educational
14 programs receive a master's degree upon completion of the
15 rigorous academic and clinical curriculum; and

16 WHEREAS, According to the American Association of Nurse
17 Anesthetists, CRNAs provide anesthesia services in all settings

1 in which anesthesia is delivered; and

2 WHEREAS, According to the American Association of Nurse
3 Anesthetists, more than two-thirds of all rural hospitals rely
4 on CRNAs to provide anesthesia care, and without these advanced
5 practice nurses, some 1,500 facilities would be unable to
6 maintain trauma stabilization and surgical and obstetrical
7 capabilities, forcing many rural Americans to travel long
8 distances for such services; and

9 WHEREAS, Each year, CRNAs working in hospitals, ambulatory
10 surgical centers, physician's offices and the medical facilities
11 of the United States military, Veterans Health Administration
12 and Public Health Service are the hands-on providers of
13 approximately 32 million anesthetics given to patients in the
14 United States; and

15 WHEREAS, The week of January 22 through 28, 2012, has been
16 designated as Nurse Anesthetists Week; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of January 22
18 through 28, 2012, as "Nurse Anesthetists Week" in Pennsylvania
19 to recognize the importance of certified registered nurse
20 anesthetists and their role in providing quality health care for
21 the public.