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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 24 Session of 2017

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INTRODUCED BY BARRAR, BAKER, BENNINGHOFF, BIZZARRO, BOBACK,  
V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, CHARLTON, DEASY, DIGIROLAMO, DRISCOLL,  
FARRY, GABLER, GOODMAN, HEFFLEY, HENNESSEY, JAMES, KINSEY,  
LONGIETTI, MARSICO, MILLARD, MURT, NEILSON, O'NEILL, ORTITAY,  
RYAN, SACCONI, SANKEY, SAYLOR, WARD, WATSON AND FREEMAN,  
JANUARY 23, 2017

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JANUARY 23, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of January 22 through 28, 2017, 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) and,  
13 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

1       WHEREAS, CRNAs provide anesthesia services in all settings in  
2 which anesthesia is delivered; and

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

10       WHEREAS, Each year, CRNAs working in hospitals, ambulatory  
11 surgical centers, physicians' offices and the medical facilities  
12 of the United States military and the Department of Veterans  
13 Affairs, as well as other public health services are the hands-  
14 on providers of approximately 32 million anesthetics given to  
15 patients in the United States; and

16       WHEREAS, The period of January 22 through 28, 2017, has been  
17 designated as "Nurse Anesthetists Week"; therefore be it

18       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
19 week of January 22 through 28, 2017, as "Nurse Anesthetists  
20 Week" in Pennsylvania to recognize the importance of Certified  
21 Registered Nurse Anesthetists and their role in providing  
22 quality health care for the public.