

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 9

Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY GORDNER, BLAKE, DINNIMAN, BAKER, GREENLEAF,
EICHELBERGER, BARTOLOTTA, MCGARRIGLE, FONTANA, HAYWOOD,
VOGEL, BREWSTER, HUGHES, RESCHENTHALER, SCHWANK, YAW,
HUTCHINSON, FARNESE, BROWNE, VULAKOVICH, YUDICHAK AND AUMENT,
JANUARY 23, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JANUARY 23, 2017

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 all graduates of nurse anesthesia educational programs receive a
14 master's degree upon completion of the rigorous academic and
15 clinical curriculum; and

16 WHEREAS, CRNAs provide anesthesia services in all settings in

1 which anesthesia is delivered and are not required by Federal or
2 State law to be supervised or directed by physician
3 anesthesiologists; and

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

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

17 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of January 22
18 through 28, 2017, 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.