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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 684 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY BARRAR, BERNSTINE, BIZZARRO, BROOKS, BURNS,  
SCHLEGEL CULVER, DONATUCCI, FREEMAN, GAYDOS, GROVE, HARKINS,  
HILL-EVANS, JAMES, KIM, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MARSHALL, MILLARD,  
MOUL, MURT, PASHINSKI, PICKETT, POLINCHOCK, READSHAW, RYAN,  
SCHLOSSBERG AND SCHMITT, JANUARY 21, 2020

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JANUARY 21, 2020

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of January 19 through 25, 2020, 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

16 WHEREAS, CRNAs provide anesthesia services in all settings in

1 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, approximately 1,500 facilities would be unable  
6 to maintain trauma stabilization and surgical and obstetrical  
7 capabilities, forcing many rural Americans to travel long  
8 distances for these services; and

9 WHEREAS, Each year, CRNAs working in hospitals, ambulatory  
10 surgical centers, physicians' offices and the medical facilities  
11 of the United States military and the Department of Veterans  
12 Affairs, as well as other public health services are the hands-  
13 on providers of approximately 45 million anesthetics given to  
14 patients in the United States; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
16 week of January 19 through 25, 2020, as "Nurse Anesthetists  
17 Week" in Pennsylvania to recognize the importance of Certified  
18 Registered Nurse Anesthetists and their role in providing  
19 quality health care for the public.