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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 11 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY VANCE, BAKER, GORDNER, ERICKSON, MENSCH, WARD,  
TEPLITZ, BRUBAKER, GREENLEAF, RAFFERTY, ROBBINS, VULAKOVICH,  
D. WHITE, BREWSTER, DINNIMAN, FONTANA, HUGHES, KASUNIC,  
SMITH, STACK, WASHINGTON AND ALLOWAY, JANUARY 23, 2013

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JANUARY 23, 2013

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of January 20 through 26, 2013, 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, CRNAs provide anesthesia services in all settings in  
17 which anesthesia is delivered and are not required by Federal or

1 State law to be supervised or directed by physician

2 anesthesiologists; 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, some 1,500 facilities would be unable to  
7 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, physician's offices and the medical facilities  
12 of the United States military, Veterans Health Administration  
13 and Public Health Service are the hands-on providers of  
14 approximately 32 million anesthetics given to patients in the  
15 United States; and

16 WHEREAS, The week of January 20 through 26, 2013, has been  
17 designated as "Nurse Anesthetists Week"; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of January 20  
19 through 26, 2013, as "Nurse Anesthetists Week" in Pennsylvania  
20 to recognize the importance of certified registered nurse  
21 anesthetists and their role in providing quality health care for  
22 the public.