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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 648 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY BARRAR, BARBIN, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, R. BROWN, BURNS,  
CALTAGIRONE, CORBIN, D. COSTA, CUTLER, DIGIROLAMO, DRISCOLL,  
GROVE, HILL-EVANS, JAMES, JOZWIAK, LONGIETTI, MARSHALL,  
MCGINNIS, J. McNEILL, MILLARD, MURT, MUSTIO, NEILSON,  
O'BRIEN, ORTITAY, PASHINSKI, READSHAW, RYAN, SANTORA, SAYLOR,  
TOOHIL, VITALI, WARD AND WHEELAND, JANUARY 22, 2018

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JANUARY 22, 2018

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of January 21 through 27, 2018, 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 WHEREAS, 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 medical facilities of  
12 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; therefore be it

16       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
17 week of January 21 through 27, 2018, as "Nurse Anesthetists  
18 Week" in Pennsylvania to recognize the importance of Certified  
19 Registered Nurse Anesthetists and their role in providing  
20 quality health care for the public.