

No. R-292. House concurrent resolution recognizing the important health care contributions of nurse anesthetists and the week of January 21-27, 2018 as National Nurse Anesthetists Week in Vermont.

(H.C.R.232)

Offered by: Representative Keenan of St. Albans City

Whereas, nurses were the first professional group to provide anesthesia in the United States and are the oldest recognized group of advanced practice registered nurse specialists, and

Whereas, these health care professionals have completed graduate-level education in one of the nationally accredited programs of anesthesia, which qualifies them to take the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA) examination, and

Whereas, CRNAs pass the national examination that the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists administers, and they must periodically complete the organization's Continued Professional Certification Program initiated in 2016, and

Whereas, they practice in traditional hospital surgical suites; obstetrical delivery rooms; critical access hospitals; ambulatory surgical centers; the offices of dentists, podiatrists, ophthalmologists, plastic surgeons, and pain management specialists; as well as in the U.S. military, Public Health Services, and Department of Veterans Affairs' health care facilities, and

Whereas, nurse anesthetists have been the main providers of anesthesia in World War I and all wars in which the U.S. has been engaged since, and

Whereas, CRNAs are the primary providers of anesthesia care in rural America, enabling health care facilities in these medically underserved areas to offer obstetrical, surgical, and trauma stabilization services, and

Whereas, nurse anesthetists provide needed anesthesia care in hospitals and medical facilities, including the White River Junction VA Medical Center, and to Vermont military personnel serving abroad, and

Whereas, in Vermont, CRNAs work in many of the State's hospital surgical units and are part of the economic solution to health care reform, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the important health care contributions of nurse anesthetists and the week of January 21-27, 2018 as National Nurse Anesthetists Week in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Association of Nurse Anesthetists.