

**No. R-33. House concurrent resolution designating the week of January 21–25 as National Nurse Anesthetists Week in Vermont.**

(H.C.R.17)

Offered by: Representatives Keenan of St. Albans City, Dakin of Chester, Fagan of Rutland City, Feltus of Lyndon, Hooper of Montpelier, Johnson of South Hero, Lanpher of Vergennes, O'Brien of Richmond, Pearce of Richford, Toll of Danville, and Trieber of Rockingham

Whereas, nurse anesthetists 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, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) complete graduate-level education in one of the nationally accredited programs of nurse anesthesia, pass the National Board on Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists' exam, and recertify biennially, and

Whereas, CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered, including 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; and in healthcare facilities operated by the U.S. military, the Public Health Services, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, and

Whereas, nurse anesthetists have been the main providers of anesthesia in all wars involving American soldiers, sailors, and the air corps since the Civil War, and

Whereas, CRNAs are the primary providers of anesthesia care in rural America, enabling healthcare facilities in these medically underserved areas to offer obstetrical, surgical, and trauma stabilization services, and in some states function as the sole providers in nearly 100 percent of the rural hospitals, and

Whereas, CRNAs serve Vermonters by providing needed anesthesia care in many medical facilities, including the Vermont Veteran's Affairs Medical Center and physician's offices, and to Vermont's military members serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, and

Whereas, 40,000 CRNAs across the United States, including 45 active CRNAs in Vermont, are part of the economic solution to Healthcare Reform, and

Whereas, the week of January 21–25, 2015, has been designated as National Nurse Anesthetists Week, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates the week of January 21–25 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.