

**No. R-40. House concurrent resolution recognizing the week of January 23, 2011 as Nurse Anesthetist Week in Vermont.**

(H.C.R.35)

Offered by: Representatives Keenan of St. Albans City, Spengler of Colchester, O'Brien of Richmond, Dakin of Chester, Acinapura of Brandon, Batchelor of Derby, Bissonnette of Winooski, Bohi of Hartford, Bouchard of Colchester, Burditt of West Rutland, Burke of Brattleboro, Cheney of Norwich, Consejo of Sheldon, Courcelle of Rutland City, Davis of Washington, Deen of Westminster, Donovan of Burlington, Eckhardt of Chittenden, Fagan of Rutland City, French of Randolph, Haas of Rochester, Head of South Burlington, Heath of Westford, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of Fair Haven, Hooper of Montpelier, Howrigan of Fairfield, Jerman of Essex, Johnson of South Hero, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Klein of East Montpelier, Kupersmith of South Burlington, Larson of Burlington, Lewis of Derby, Macaig of Williston, Malcolm of Pawlet, Manwaring of Wilmington, Martin of Wolcott, Masland of Thetford, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Moran of Wardsboro, Mrowicki of Putney, Myers of Essex, Nuovo of Middlebury, Partridge of Windham, Pearce of Richford, Pearson of Burlington, Perley of Enosburgh, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Shand of Weathersfield, Smith of New Haven, Strong of Albany, Till of Jericho, Toll of Danville, Wizowaty of Burlington and Yantachka of Charlotte

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Kittell

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, a nurse anesthetist has completed a graduate-level educational program in a nationally accredited program of nurse anesthesia and after graduation is qualified to take the national certifying examination to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), and

Whereas, CRNAs are required to take and pass the national certification examination administered by the National Board on Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists administers, and

Whereas, CRNAs must recertify every two years in order to continue to practice the specialty of anesthesia, and

Whereas, CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered: 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 United States Public Health Service, United States Department of Veterans' Affairs, and military health care facilities, and

Whereas, nurses first provided anesthesia to wounded soldiers during the Civil War, and since World War II, nurse anesthetists have been the main providers of anesthesia care to United States military combat personnel, 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, in some states, CRNAs are the sole providers in nearly all rural hospitals, and

Whereas, CRNAs serve Vermonters by providing needed anesthesia care in 10 hospitals, medical facilities, including the Vermont Veterans' Affairs Medical Center, and physician's offices, and

Whereas, 40,000 CRNAs across the United States, including 49 active CRNAs in Vermont, are part of the solution to health care reform, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the week of January 23, 2011 as Nurse Anesthetist Week in Vermont, and be it further

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