

**No. R-32. House concurrent resolution designating the week of January 20, 2013 as National Nurse Anesthetists Week in Vermont**

(H.C.R.14)

Offered by: Representatives Keenan of St. Albans City, Dakin of Chester, O'Brien of Richmond, Spengler of Colchester, and Till of Jericho

Offered by: Senators Ayer, Fox, and Lyons

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

Whereas, upon completion of a nationally accredited nurse graduate-level curriculum, these nurses may take the national certifying examination to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), and certification must be renewed biennially, and

Whereas, CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered, including traditional hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and the health care facilities of the U.S. Armed Forces, public health services, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and

Whereas, since the Civil War, nurse anesthetists have been the main providers of anesthesia to American military personnel in combat, and

Whereas, CRNAs are the primary providers of anesthesia care in rural America, enabling health care facilities in these medically underserved areas to offer specialized care, and in some states, CRNAs are the sole anesthesia providers in almost all rural hospitals, and

Whereas, the services of CRNAs are provided to patients at the White River Junction VA Medical Center, and these specially trained nurses have served our Armed Forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, and

Whereas, in Vermont, CRNAs work with all levels of patients in eight of the 13 hospitals in Vermont in which surgical services are provided, and

Whereas, 40,000 CRNAs across the United States, including 45 active CRNAs in Vermont, are part of the economic solution to high health care costs, and

Whereas, the week of January 20, 2013 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 20, 2013 as 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.