

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING
ACR 122 (Ahrens)
As Introduced January 15, 2026
Majority vote

SUMMARY

Designates the week of January 25, 2026, to January 31, 2026, inclusive, as Anesthesiologists Week.

Major Provisions

- 1) Anesthesiologists have advanced patient care throughout the history of modern medicine and have been instrumental in pivotal milestones in medical history. Through leadership, innovation, and scientific rigor, anesthesiologists have shaped what is possible in surgical care, pain management, critical care, and patient safety.
- 2) Anesthesiologists pioneered modern airway management and continue to lead the advancement of endotracheal intubation techniques and devices that protect patients' breathing and life-sustaining functions during surgery and critical illness.
- 3) Anesthesiologists played a leading role in advancing mechanical ventilation and ventilator management, helping to give rise to the modern intensive care unit and saving millions of lives worldwide through expertise in physiology, monitoring, and life support.
- 4) Anesthesiologists are recognized physician leaders in patient safety science and have established the foundation of modern perioperative safety through the development of safety standards, crisis management systems, and the widespread adoption of physiologic monitoring technologies, including pulse oximetry, resulting in the largest sustained reductions in perioperative mortality of any medical specialty.
- 5) Anesthesiologists led the advancement of regional anesthesia techniques, including nerve blocks, spinal anesthesia, and epidural anesthesia, transforming pain management, reducing opioid exposure, and contributing to efforts to address the opioid epidemic.
- 6) The advancement of cardiothoracic, transplant, and trauma anesthesia by anesthesiologists has made once-impossible, high-risk surgical procedures—including open-heart surgery and organ transplantation—safe and achievable.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

From anesthesia and airway management to patient safety monitoring and alternatives to opioid based pain management, physician anesthesiologists have pioneered essential medical findings and advances. Anesthesiologists have significantly improved surgical outcomes and reduced surgery related deaths. Anesthesiologists Week looks to bring awareness and formally recognize the profession's impact on patient safety.

Arguments in Support

None on file

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

No fiscal impact. This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

VOTES

ASM RULES: 9-0-1

YES: Pacheco, Lackey, Ahrens, Dixon, Garcia, Mark González, Irwin, Sanchez, Zbur

ABS, ABST OR NV: Michelle Rodriguez

UPDATED

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