

Date of Hearing: January 23, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES  
Blanca Pacheco, Chair  
ACR 17 (Hadwick) – As Introduced January 17, 2025

**SUBJECT:** National Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists Week.

**SUMMARY:** Designates the week of January 19-25, 2025, as National Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists Week to celebrate and recognize the contributions of these individuals to the health and well-being of Californians. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) are highly trained, advanced practice registered nurses specializing in anesthesiology who provide independent anesthesia care to patients before, during, and after surgical, obstetrical, and trauma procedures.
- 2) CRNAs are integral to California's health care system, offering safe, cost-effective, and accessible anesthesia care in urban centers, rural hospitals, military settings, and underserved communities across the state. They have completed rigorous academic and clinical training, including advanced education in pharmacology, physiology, and anesthesia practice.
- 3) CRNAs are at the forefront of addressing the opioid epidemic by advancing the use of opioid-free and opioid-sparing anesthesia techniques that reduce patients' exposure to opioids, minimize the risk of dependence, and contribute to long-term public health solutions.
- 4) CRNAs utilize innovative nonopioid pain management strategies, such as multimodal anesthesia, peripheral nerve blocks, regional anesthesia, and the use of nonopioid medications like acetaminophen, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, and adjunctive therapies, to effectively control pain while avoiding opioid-related complications.
- 5) CRNAs collaborate with health care providers to implement enhanced recovery after surgery protocols, which emphasize opioid-free or opioid-sparing approaches to improve patient outcomes, reduce postoperative complications, and shorten hospital stays.
- 6) The expertise of CRNAs in developing and applying these innovative techniques not only addresses the immediate needs of patients but also plays a critical role in reducing the overall societal impact of the opioid crisis.
- 7) CRNAs demonstrate leadership in health care policy, education, research, and clinical practice and advance the standards of anesthesia care while addressing California's diverse and evolving health care needs.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

None on file

**Opposition**

None on file

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