

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE THE SECOND WEEK OF JUNE AS
3 "CERTIFIED ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS WEEK" TO RECOGNIZE
4 CERTIFIED ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS AS HIGHLY SKILLED
5 HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ACKNOWLEDGE THE EDUCATIONAL AND
6 PROFESSIONAL TRAINING THAT CERTIFIED ANESTHESIOLOGIST
7 ASSISTANTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTAIN AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE CRUCIAL
8 ROLE OF CERTIFIED ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS IN THE DELIVERY
9 OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES.

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11 WHEREAS, in the early 1960s, leaders in the medical
12 specialty of anesthesiology recognized staffing shortages,
13 and to meet growing demands and accommodate the increasing
14 complexity of anesthesia and surgery, three anesthesiologists
15 proposed the precursor to what is now known as the certified
16 anesthesiologist assistant; and

17 WHEREAS, certified anesthesiologist assistants are
18 highly skilled health care professionals who work under the
19 direction of licensed physician anesthesiologists to
20 implement anesthesia care plans and work exclusively within
21 the anesthesia care team model as described by the American
22 society of anesthesiologists; and

23 WHEREAS, all certified anesthesiologist assistant
24 students must have earned a baccalaureate degree with
25 pre-medical coursework and complete a graduate-level,

1 comprehensive, didactic clinical program; and

2 WHEREAS, certified anesthesiologist assistant training
3 must include a minimum of twenty-four to twenty-eight months
4 in a master's-level program accredited by the commission on
5 accreditation of allied health education programs and must be
6 based at, or offered in collaboration with, a university that
7 has a medical school and academic anesthesiologist physician
8 faculty; and

9 WHEREAS, an average of six hundred hours of classroom
10 and laboratory education, two thousand six hundred hours of
11 clinical anesthesia education and the administration of more
12 than six hundred anesthetics for various types of surgeries
13 are typically required to successfully complete certified
14 anesthesiologist assistant training; and

15 WHEREAS, certified anesthesiologist assistants are
16 trained extensively in the delivery and maintenance of
17 quality anesthesia care as well as advanced patient
18 monitoring techniques, and certified anesthesiologist
19 assistants perform such tasks as administering drugs,
20 obtaining vascular access, applying and interpreting
21 monitors, establishing and maintaining patient airways and
22 assisting with preoperative assessments;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor
25 be requested to declare June 6 through June 12, 2022 as

1 "Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants Week" in New Mexico;
2 and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
4 transmitted to the members of the legislative health and human
5 services committee and the New Mexico academy of
6 anesthesiologist assistants. _____

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