

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 119

Introduced by Assembly Member Chiu

January 15, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 119—Relative to Physician Anesthesiologist Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 119, as introduced, Chiu. Physician Anesthesiologist Week.

This measure would designate the week of January 31, 2016, to February 6, 2016, inclusive, as Physician Anesthesiologist Week.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Annually in the United States, more than 100
2 million operations and procedures are performed with anesthesia,
3 and physician anesthesiologists play a critical role in a patient's
4 well-being before, during, and after surgical procedures and make
5 patient safety their top priority; and

6 WHEREAS, Physician anesthesiologists have the highest levels
7 of training and must complete between 12,000 and 16,000 hours
8 of training prior to practicing independently; and

9 WHEREAS, Physician anesthesiologists have been leaders in
10 patient safety and cited as the only medical specialty to have
11 significantly improved patient safety; and

12 WHEREAS, A physician anesthesiologist's duties include
13 evaluating a patient's current health prior to receiving anesthesia
14 to ensure the best outcome, administering anesthesia, monitoring
15 the patient during surgery, and assessing the patient after the
16 procedure is completed; and

1 WHEREAS, This spectrum of patient care constitutes the
2 perioperative surgical home, which the American Society of
3 Anesthesiologists has identified as an innovative model in patient
4 care where the physician anesthesiologist directs the anesthesia
5 care team to provide support to the patient throughout all aspects
6 of surgical care and procedures; and

7 WHEREAS, There is up to a 20-percent reduction in adverse
8 events when physician anesthesiologists lead the anesthesia care
9 team; and

10 WHEREAS, The American Medical Association completed a
11 public opinion survey that concluded 70 percent of patients want
12 a physician to administer and monitor anesthesia levels; and

13 WHEREAS, Anesthesia is safer than ever before, yet there
14 remains potential for complications and side effects during
15 procedures, and physician anesthesiologists have the training and
16 expertise to help minimize these risks, monitor for any problems,
17 and take quick action; and

18 WHEREAS, During surgeries or procedures, when seconds
19 count, physician anesthesiologists have the highest degree of
20 training to respond to emergencies and ensure the best patient
21 outcomes; and

22 WHEREAS, The California Society of Anesthesiologists is a
23 physician organization with over 3,000 members dedicated to
24 promoting the highest standards of the profession of
25 anesthesiology, fostering excellence through continuing medical
26 education, and serving as an advocate for anesthesiologists and
27 their patients; now, therefore, be it

28 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
29 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
30 week of January 31, 2016, to February 6, 2016, inclusive, as
31 Physician Anesthesiologist Week; and be it further

32 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
33 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.