

Steven Sepe

From: Sandra Darling <sandradarling47@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 6:39 PM
To: House Health and Human Services Committee
Subject: Support for HB 5428

Dear Members of the House Health and Human Services Committee:

I write to you today in support of HB 5428 which will clarify the training and appropriate provider of sedation anesthesia. This legislation will place into law the provider, a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist who is educated and is recognized by the health care community, as the only nurse that can provide unconscious sedation in their scope of practice.

I practiced Nurse Anesthesia for 50 years in many and various locations and situations. I took care and administered anesthesia to the simplest surgical procedure to the Heart transplant in a university hospital. I have seen it all! However, some of the most challenging patients were those requiring a sedation which most patients believed to be asleep. That's what we called deep sedation and was required for some to achieve a painless procedure safely. If you are squirming around during your colonoscopy that could be dangerous and cause a ruptured colon and possible surgery to fix. There is not just a science to our profession but an art. As we get experience in the art of anesthesia we develop a sixth sense and alert ourselves to changes in the patient's condition, such as a heart arrhythmia or obstructed breathing. This takes years to perfect and special education when quick action is needed. Also we are seeing sicker patients with comorbidities and obesity. In many cases those patients need airway support and a knowledgeable anesthetist to provide urgent treatment. As a senior citizen I want someone administering my anesthesia who is trained to do the job right.

Protect our patients, friends and families by approving HB 5428 so there is no confusion who should administer deep sedation and other types of anesthesia.

Sandra Darling, Retired CRNA
7 Fort Hill Rd
Bristol, RI 02809
904-860-1566