

Steven Sepe

From: Marianne Kelly <mkelly5915@ymail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2026 4:04 PM
To: House Health and Human Services Committee; Rep. Costantino, Gregory J.
Subject: SUPPORT for House Bill No. 7740 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- NURSES

RE: ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- NURSES {LC5183/1} (Details each of those limited emergency circumstances where a registered nurse and advanced practice registered nurses, may safely administer sedation, such as critical life-saving or emergency situations where there is an imminent threat to life or limb.)

Chairwoman Donovan and members of the House Health and Human Services Committee,

I write to you today in support of House Bill No. 7740, which clarifies and strengthens Rhode Island's standards regarding the administration of deep sedation and general anesthesia.

House Bill No. 7740 appropriately restricts who may administer deep sedation and general anesthesia in Rhode Island, clearly limiting that authority to certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) and other appropriately licensed anesthesia providers—except in true emergency or critical-care situations where immediate action is necessary to preserve life or limb.

This legislation reinforces important professional distinctions within nursing and healthcare practice. While registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses play essential and highly skilled roles in patient care, the administration of deep sedation and general anesthesia requires specialized, anesthesia-specific education, training, and clinical experience. These are not routine interventions—they carry significant and sometimes unpredictable risks.

General anesthesia and deep sedation can rapidly affect a patient's airway, breathing, cardiovascular function, and neurological status. Managing these risks—especially in worst-case scenarios—requires providers who are specifically trained and credentialed in anesthesia care. House Bill 7740 helps ensure that these high-risk procedures are performed only by those with the appropriate expertise.

Importantly, this bill does not create new or unnecessary restrictions. Rather, it aligns Rhode Island law with widely accepted national anesthesia safety standards, reinforcing best practices that prioritize patient safety and quality of care.

By clearly defining roles and expectations, this legislation protects patients, supports appropriate clinical practice, and strengthens trust in our healthcare system.

I respectfully urge you to support House Bill No. 7740. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marianne Kelly
Johnston, RI

