

From: [Mary Ann](#)
To: [SLegislation](#)
Cc: sen_murray@rilegislature.gov
Subject: Senate Bill 3184; HHS committee
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To the RI legislature and the public of RI,

I am a 26 year veteran CRNA. I want to express my disappointment at the delusion you are entertaining to allow practitioners other than those trained and certified in the practice of anesthesia to administer “deep sedation”. Throughout my career, I have administer thousands of sedation anesthetics in a wide variety of settings-surgery centers, OR, MRI suites, cardiac catheters lab etc., as well as to a wide range of ages and levels of morbidity. The single caveat I can pass on to you as non-clinical persons, is ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN AND DOES. Because of the training and experience CRNAs and Anesthesiologists have we can manage these untoward occurrences. Hence the need for a trained, certified anesthesia provider.

I am a Rhode Island resident and practice in Southern Massachusetts. My career began at Southcoast Hospitals Group, moved to St Anne’s in Fall River which was run by Steward Medical group, who in-turn, filed bankruptcy and was finally taken over by Brown Health. As such, I have worked under both the nonprofit and private equity models of healthcare. While neither is perfect, I can only see the advent of shifting anesthesia privileges to non-anesthesia providers as an ill-fated attempt to address anesthesia staffing shortages and expense. Basically, a money saving decision designed to maximize profit at the expense of patient safety. I believe the answer to these problems is to hire additional staff, not create a dangerous healthcare environment. Please consider the motivations and intent of those policies and think, “Who do I want to anesthetize me?”.

Thank you for your time,

Mary Ann Heiser, CRNA
Sent from my iPad