

Dear Senators,

My name is Vanessa Marzilli and I am a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA). In order to graduate CRNA school/ Anesthesia school, CRNAs must complete at least 2000 anesthesia specific clinical hours, at least 600 anesthesia cases, at least 450 anesthetics, and at least 250 intubations (procedure where we place the breathing tube in your “breathing pipe”). CRNAs complete more than 6 anesthesia specific courses in addition to advanced practice nursing courses in the doctorate program. CRNAs must pass a national certification exam which certifies them by an accrediting body to give anesthesia. Nurse Practitioners do not.

I would like for you to think about an instance in the future in which you may need a colonoscopy, or in which your child needs an elective procedure and you are told you/they will be given anesthesia. Do you want to receive your anesthesia from a board certified anesthesia provider with 3 years of anesthesia specific training? Or someone who learned how to give one type of anesthesia “on the job”? If this bill does not pass, I am concerned that the public will go to receive anesthesia and no longer know if the person administering it is a board certified anesthesia provider or not.

Anesthesia programs exist for a reason. Accrediting bodies exist for a reason. I do not believe this should be compromised.

Thank you for your time,
Vanessa Marzilli, MSN, CRNA