Assembly Resolution No. 751

BY: M. of A. Paulin

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 21-27, 2024, as Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official weeks that are set aside to inform key audiences about the role and value of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists in delivering anesthesia care in today's and tomorrow's United States healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 21-27, 2024, as Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Week in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Week; and

WHEREAS, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) are essential to America's healthcare system; these dedicated health professionals have been providing high-quality, cost-effective anesthesia care for more than 150 years, and have safely administered approximately 43 million anesthetics to patients each year; and

WHEREAS, Nurse Anesthetists were the first professional group to provide anesthesia in the United States, and are the oldest recognized group of advanced practice registered nurse specialists; and

WHEREAS, These registered nurses have completed a graduate-level educational program in a nationally accredited program of nurse anesthesia, and, after graduation, they are qualified to take the national certifying examination; and

WHEREAS, Nurses first provided anesthesia to wounded soldiers during the Civil War; since World War I, nurse anesthetists have been the main provider of anesthesia care to United States military personnel on the front lines; today, these remarkable men and women serve our soldiers in conflicts throughout the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, CRNAs are the primary providers of anesthesia care in rural America, enabling healthcare facilities in these medically underserved areas to offer obstetrical, surgical, and trauma stabilization services; in some states, CRNAs are the sole providers in nearly 100% of the rural hospitals; and

WHEREAS, CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered including traditional hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms; the offices of dentists, podiatrists, ophthalmologists, and plastic surgeons; ambulatory surgical centers; and United States Military and Public Health Services and Veterans Administration medical facilities; and

WHEREAS, Each day, New Yorkers benefit from the caring and skilled attention of these individuals, and it is appropriate to recognize the innumerable contributions of CRNAs by designating a special week in their honor; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize these exceptional healthcare professionals for their outstanding contribution in adding to the quality of life in our State and Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 21-27, 2024, as Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Week in the State of New York, in recognition of our appreciation of CRNAs, and to celebrate their dedication and professionalism; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York; and Board Members of the New York State Association of Nurse Anesthetists.