

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 491

By Dickerson

A RESOLUTION to designate January 31 – February 6, 2016,
"Physician Anesthesiologists Week" in
Tennessee.

WHEREAS, annually in the United States, more than 100 million operations and procedures are performed with anesthesia, and physician anesthesiologists play a critical role in a patient's well-being before, during, and after surgical procedures and make patient safety their top priority; and

WHEREAS, physician anesthesiologists have the highest levels of training and must complete between 12,000 and 16,000 hours of training prior to practicing independently; and

WHEREAS, physician anesthesiologists have been leaders in patient safety and cited as the only medical specialty to have significantly improved patient safety; and

WHEREAS, a physician anesthesiologist's duties include evaluating a patient's current health prior to receiving anesthesia to ensure the best outcome, administering anesthesia, monitoring the patient during surgery, and assessing the patient after the procedure is completed; and

WHEREAS, this spectrum of patient care constitutes the perioperative surgical home. The American Society of Anesthesiologists has identified the perioperative surgical home as an innovative model in patient care where the physician anesthesiologist directs the anesthesia care team to provide support to the patient throughout all aspects of surgical care and procedures; and

WHEREAS, there is up to a twenty percent reduction in adverse events when physician anesthesiologists lead the anesthesia care team; and

WHEREAS, the American Medical Association completed a public opinion survey that concluded seventy percent of patients want a physician to administer and monitor anesthesia levels; and

WHEREAS, anesthesia is safer than ever before, yet there remains potential for complication and side effects during procedures, and physician anesthesiologists have the training and expertise to help minimize these risks, monitor for any problems, and take quick action; and

WHEREAS, during surgeries or procedures, when seconds count, physician anesthesiologists have the highest degree of training to respond to emergencies and ensure the best patient outcomes; and

WHEREAS, it is wholly fitting that we join with physician anesthesiologist organizations nationwide as they celebrate this auspicious and noteworthy week of recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby designate January 31 – February 6, 2016, "Physician Anesthesiologists Week" in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.