

CHAPTER 154**(SB 175)**

AN ACT relating to anesthesiologist assistants.

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has a shortage of qualified anesthesia providers; and

WHEREAS, only two anesthesiologist assistants are currently certified to practice in Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, anesthesiologist assistants are certified or licensed to practice in several other states; and

WHEREAS, the Kentucky General Assembly recognizes the need for qualified anesthesia team members;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission shall conduct a study comparing and analyzing the certification and scope of practice requirements of anesthesiologist assistants in Kentucky to those requirements in all states that statutorily license or certify anesthesiologist assistants. The analysis undertaken shall compare and contrast the certification or licensure requirements of anesthesiologist assistants in other states with the certification requirements of anesthesiologist assistants in Kentucky; evaluate the training, certification or licensure requirements, and scope of practice of anesthesiologist assistants and other anesthesia providers, including but not limited to certified registered nurse anesthetists, in Kentucky and other states where anesthesiologist assistants are statutorily licensed or certified to practice; and gather data and testimony from affected persons and professionals regarding the scope of practice and certification or licensure requirements for anesthesiologist assistants in the Commonwealth.

Section 2. The Legislative Research Commission shall transmit the results of the study required by Section 1 of this Act to the appropriate committees by December 15, 2006.

Section 3. Provisions of this legislation to the contrary notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to designate a study completion date.

Approved April 5, 2006.