

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing January 25 to 31, 2026, as Physician
2 Anesthesiologist Week.

3 WHEREAS, physician anesthesiologists have advanced patient care throughout the
4 history of modern medicine, by shaping what is possible in surgical care, pain
5 management, and critical care; and

6 WHEREAS, the invention and clinical introduction of anesthesia, in the form of
7 ether, chloroform, nitrous oxide, and later modern agents such as halothane, sevoflurane,
8 propofol, and remifentanyl by physician anesthesiologists has made painless surgery
9 possible and is often cited as the most important medical advance in history; and

10 WHEREAS, the innovation and advancement of airway management and intubation
11 techniques and devices by physician anesthesiologists ensures every breath a patient
12 takes during surgery is protected; and

13 WHEREAS, the innovation of the Apgar Score, a test created by anesthesiologist
14 Dr. Virginia Apgar, which ensures a baby's health is assessed at birth, significantly
15 transformed obstetric care; and

16 WHEREAS, the innovation of mechanical ventilation and ventilator management
17 perfected by physician anesthesiologists helped lead to the creation of the modern
18 intensive care unit, saving millions of lives worldwide; and

19 WHEREAS, physician anesthesiologists' innovation of patient safety science and
20 safety monitoring, including pulse oximetry, has changed how patients' heart and lung
21 function and blood oxygenation levels are monitored in the operating room and standards
22 on basic anesthetic monitoring have heralded the largest sustained reduction in
23 perioperative mortality of any specialty; and

24 WHEREAS, the innovation of regional anesthesia, such as nerve blocks, spinal
25 anesthesia and epidurals, by physician anesthesiologists has transformed pain
26 management options, thus helping to reduce opioid use and combat the opioid epidemic;
27 and

1 WHEREAS, the innovation of cardiothoracic, transplant, and trauma anesthesia by
2 physician anesthesiologists has made once impossible, high-risk surgeries such as open-
3 heart and transplant surgeries possible;

4 NOW, THEREFORE,

5 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
6 *Kentucky:*

7 ➡Section 1. The Senate hereby recognizes January 25 to 31, 2026, as Physician
8 Anesthesiologist Week.

9 ➡Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
10 Resolution to Senator Donald Douglas.