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Kansas House Health Committee
Kansas State Capitol
300 SW 10th Ave
Topeka, KS 66612

Subject: Expansion of Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs) in Kansas

Dear Members of the House Health Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the expansion of Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs) into Kansas. As a highly trained anesthesia professional, I have witnessed firsthand the critical role CAAs play in ensuring safe, high-quality anesthesia care. Kansas faces ongoing anesthesia provider shortages, particularly in rural areas, and CAAs can help bridge this gap while maintaining the highest standards of patient safety.

CAAs are rigorously trained at the graduate level and practice exclusively within the Anesthesia Care Team (ACT) model under the supervision of physician anesthesiologists. This model has been proven to provide the safest and most effective anesthesia care. Currently recognized in 19 states, CAAs expand access to surgical, obstetric, and procedural anesthesia services while preserving physician oversight and maintaining safety protocols.

By allowing CAAs to practice in Kansas, the state can enhance access to anesthesia services, improve surgical care availability, and alleviate provider shortages without compromising patient safety. I urge you to support legislation recognizing CAAs and integrating them into Kansas healthcare system.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to discuss this further at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Courtney Znamenacek, CAA