



MISSOURI SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

Kansas State Legislature
House of Representatives
300 SW 10th St.
Topeka, Kansas 66612

2/10/2025

Regarding: House Bill 2368 - Providing for the Licensure of Anesthesiologist Assistants.

Dear Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services,

On behalf of the Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists, I write in strong support of House Bill 2368, which would establish licensure for Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs) in Kansas. Missouri successfully enacted CAA licensure in 2003, and since 2005, CAAs have become an integral part of anesthesia care teams across our state. Today, over 150 CAAs practice in Missouri, improving access to high-quality anesthesia care while ensuring patient safety through the physician-led model.

Many Missouri anesthesiology practices employ both CAAs and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) to work with physician anesthesiologists. Both providers practice under identical 1:4 supervision ratio rules in the medical direction model making rotating staff safe and efficient. In these practices, both CAAs and CRNAs are given the same clinical responsibilities and duties when it comes to the delivery of anesthesia within the anesthesia care team model. Both receive the same compensation, benefits, and opportunities within the workplace. Both have the same malpractice insurance rates. Both work cohesively and seamlessly within these practices----they take the same call shifts, they relieve each other at the end of clinical duty and for breaks, and they swap work and call shifts with each other.

Kansas faces ongoing challenges in maintaining an adequate anesthesia workforce. CAA licensure would expand the pool of qualified anesthesia providers while preserving the physician-led, team-based model of care that has been proven to deliver the highest standard of patient safety. By formally recognizing CAAs as licensed providers, Kansas would be taking an important step toward strengthening its healthcare system and addressing workforce shortages without compromising quality or safety.

We strongly encourage the committee to support HB 2368 and provide Kansas patients with the same high-quality anesthesia care that has been successful in Missouri. If I can provide further information or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Glenski, MD, MSHA, FASA

President

Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists

PO Box 1865

Jefferson City, MO 65102

P: 573-403-7841 F: (573) 636-7142

www.msahq.com