

SUPPORT SB 210: OREGON 2013 REGULAR SESSION

Nurse Anesthetists Clarify Office Practice

The Oregon Association of Nurse Anesthetists (ORANA) has been advised to pursue legislative language to clarify Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists' (CRNAs) authority to practice in office practices settings.

Current Oregon CRNA statute specifies guidelines for how CRNAs to follow when practicing in an ambulatory surgical center and hospital, but is silent on office practice settings.

Both prior to and after passage of the Oregon CRNA statute, CRNAs have practiced in every setting in which anesthesia and analgesia are required, including the office setting. Examples of office settings where CRNAs practice would include offices of dentists, podiatrists, ophthalmologists, plastic surgeons and women's care providers.

Legislative history is quite clear that the silence in statute was not intended by legislators to restrict CRNA practice settings, however, the statute has not been revisited in 15 years and needs to be revisited to specifically specify the ability of CRNAs to practice in an office setting.

CRNAs are an important part of anesthesia delivery in Oregon, especially in our medically-underserved rural and frontier communities.

CRNAs safely deliver anesthesia services in all types of facilities and should continue to do so.

SB 210 would clarify in statute their ability to perform services in the same locations and in the same manner they do today.

For more information please contact: ORANA Government Relations Team Phone: 503.874.1105 | Fax: 888.295.2340 | evelyn@oregon-crna.org