

Parth Kalola, CAA
Frederick, Maryland District 3
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Senate Finance Committee
11 Bladen Street, 3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Re: Senate Bill 951 State Board of Physicians Anesthesiologist Assistants
Licensing**

Dear Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Parth Kalola. I am a Maryland resident and a Certified Anesthesiologist Assistant living in Frederick since 2021. My wife and I have built our life here. Two of our three children were born in Frederick, and we plan to raise our family here long term.

I have been nationally certified and practicing as a CAA for several years. I currently practice anesthesia in Washington, DC because Maryland does not license CAAs. While I am grateful for the opportunity to work there, the daily commute is demanding and takes time away from my family and from the community I call home.

I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 951 and House Bill 1558 State Board of Physicians Anesthesiologist Assistants Licensing.

Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants practice exclusively within the physician anesthesiologist led Anesthesia Care Team model. We do not practice independently. Anesthesiologist supervision is required. We function within the same operating room safety culture as physician anesthesiologists, including standardized checklists, continuous monitoring, structured escalation pathways, and immediate physician involvement for complex or emergent situations.

This legislation does not create independent practice. It preserves physician leadership while allowing hospitals to add a supervised anesthesia professional to their teams.

Maryland hospitals and surgical centers face anesthesia staffing pressure that can delay or limit procedures. As our population grows, especially in regions like Frederick, access to timely surgical and procedural care becomes increasingly important. Licensing CAAs would expand capacity within existing physician led models without changing physician oversight or hospital authority.

Many CAAs already live in Maryland but commute to DC or other jurisdictions to work. Licensure would keep clinicians and care capacity in state and allow professionals like me to serve the communities where we live.

CAA education is graduate level and anesthesia specific, with standardized national certification, continuing education requirements, and periodic recertification. Hospitals credential and privilege anesthesia clinicians through peer review and quality systems, and state licensure would add an additional layer of public accountability and oversight.

Maryland patients deserve timely access to safe, physician led anesthesia care close to home. I respectfully urge you to support Senate Bill 951 so Maryland can license Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants and expand access to care while preserving patient safety.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Parth Kalola, CAA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Parth Kalola', written in a cursive style.