

March 3, 2026

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes and Members of the Senate
Senate Finance Committee
11 Bladen Street, 3 East Miller Senate Office Building,
Annapolis, MD 21401

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

My name is Hannah Hoang, and I am a first year student anesthesiologist assistant who is currently enrolled in a Master of Science in Anesthesia program in Washington, D.C. I am writing today in strong support of the Senate Bill 951/House Bill 1558 bill in hopes that the state of Maryland will license Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs) as part of the physician anesthesiologist–led anesthesia care team.

I was born and raised in Salisbury, Maryland and attended the University of Maryland, College Park for my undergraduate education. My family has lived on the lower Eastern Shore for over 25 years, and that community has played a fundamental role in shaping the person I am today. I saw firsthand how difficult it can be to access certain types of healthcare in rural areas. While Salisbury has a strong and supportive local community, many specialty services are limited on the Eastern Shore. For more extensive care, families often have to travel at least an hour or must cross the Chesapeake Bay Bridge to receive care. These barriers can make it challenging for patients to receive timely medical treatment, prompting my interest in the medical field. I chose to attend the CAA program in Washington, D.C. because it is the closest one to my home state, as I proudly call Maryland my home.

For me, this legislation represents the opportunity to come back to the place that shaped my life and career goals. My hope is to return to the Eastern Shore and provide safe anesthesia care under the supervision of a physician anesthesiologist while addressing anesthesia workforce shortages in the rural community that supported me throughout my life.

I respectfully ask for your consideration and support of the Senate Bill 951/House Bill 1558—State Board of Physicians—Anesthesiologist Assistants—Licensing. Passing this legislation would help expand access to anesthesia care and give students like myself the opportunity to return home after graduation and serve the communities that raised us. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Hannah Hoang