

March 12, 2026

House Health Committee
6 Bladen Street
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison, and members of the House,

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 (MSA) program in Washington, D.C. I am writing today in strong support of House Bill 1558 in hopes that the state of Maryland will license Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs) as part of the physician anesthesiologist–led anesthesia care team.

I have always had very strong roots in Maryland. I was born and raised in Salisbury, and my family has lived on the lower Eastern Shore for twenty-seven years. For my undergraduate education, I chose to attend the University of Maryland, College Park to remain close to my family. That same mindset also played a role in deciding what graduate school program to attend, leading to my enrollment at the MSA program in Washington, D.C.

Growing up, I noticed there were gaps and healthcare disparities that have affected members of my community and my family in the past. For more extensive and specialized care, families often have to travel at least an hour or commute across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge to receive treatment. These barriers can make it challenging for patients to receive timely medical help. Seeing this firsthand sparked my interest in working in the medical field, which ultimately led to my goal to become a CAA. My hope is to eventually return to the lower Eastern Shore and provide safe anesthesia care under the supervision of a physician anesthesiologist while also addressing the workforce shortages in more rural communities.

I respectfully ask for your consideration and support of House Bill 1558. I personally believe that passing this legislation would help expand access to anesthesia care and give students like myself the opportunity to return home after graduation. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Hannah Hoang