

Dear Arizona Anesthesiologist,

I am writing to provide a brief update on SB1269, the nurse anesthetist independent practice bill. As of right now the bill has been withdrawn and replaced with a small appropriations bill SB1282 which provides support for CRNA funding here in Arizona. We fully support the removal of language that would have eliminated the long-established requirement for physician involvement in anesthesia care by nurse anesthetists. We owe this positive development to a number of important factors including:

1. A robust member and community response on the RTS (request to speak) system which demonstrated overwhelming opposition to SB1269.
2. A strong grassroots community engagement which involved hundreds of constituents calling and emailing their state senators and representatives.
3. Support from the ASA State Affairs Office and great work by AzSA contract lobbyists.
4. Overwhelming support from multiple state and national medical organizations. Please click the second button (right) to review the *Letter to Arizona Legislators* signed by 24 state and national medical organizations in opposition to SB1269.

While this development is certainly great news, we remain focused and ready to respond to potential striker amendments that can still aim to introduce dangerous nurse anesthetist scope of practice expansion. These amendments can be presented at any time over the next couple of months so please stay tuned and check the AzSA Website often for ongoing updates!

Thank you for all of your engagement and work to protect patients in Arizona.

Sincerely,

Steve Lindauer, M.D., FASA
President, Arizona Society of Anesthesiologists