



# NJAPAC

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## AANA NAME CHANGE TO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHESIOLOGY

### ***WHY SHOULD PHYSICIAN ANESTHESIOLOGISTS BE CONCERNED?***

This week, the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) will formally change their name to the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology. Our society is deeply concerned about this change because it misguides and confuses patients by not accurately depicting the difference in education between physicians and physician extenders. The term “anesthesiologist” has always referred to physicians specifically to differentiate from nurse anesthetists. If a patient were to become confused because of the misguided title change, they may consent to receiving anesthesia care believing they are under the care of a doctor. Our society in NJ has taken the first steps in stopping this misrepresentation by enacting the Truth in Advertising legislation. Help our society in the next phase of the fight by contributing to the NJ Anesthesia PAC!

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## ***WHAT HAS OUR SOCIETY BEEN DOING TO PROTECT YOUR PRACTICE IN NJ?***

In New Jersey, we have been proactive in the fight against title misappropriation through tireless work with our legislative allies and other physician specialties on the ***Truth in Advertising (TIA) Legislation***. The TIA law will ensure patients in NJ know who is providing their care and what their credentials are. The law:

- requires all health care professionals to clearly and accurately identify themselves in all writings, advertisements and other communications
- requires all health care professionals to wear, during patient encounters, a name tag or other ID that clearly identifies the type of license/degree they hold
- requires signage in offices identifying health care professionals and alerting patients when a physician is present
- limits the use of “Board Certification”
- provides minimum and consistent standards for advertisements for licensed health care professionals and prohibits advertisements or websites advertising health care services from including deceptive or misleading information.

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### ***HOW DID NJAPAC ASSIST IN GETTING THE TIA LEGISLATION SIGNED INTO LAW?***



\*Working with a diverse coalition of other physician specialties concerned with scope creep by non-physicians.

\*Participating in dozens of political events each election cycle to advocate for our society's interests.

\*Meeting with key legislative allies to build and maintain relationships and enhance recognition of our society in the NJ Legislature.

\*Engaging in an education campaign in Trenton on the importance of physician-led anesthesia care.

\*Working with the NJSSA Advocacy Committee to make political contributions to key elected officials and candidates for state offices.

## ***WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS IN PREVENTING NURSE ANESTHETISTS FROM CHANGING THEIR TITLE TO NURSE ANESTHESIOLOGISTS IN NJ?***

The AANA changing their society's name is just the first step in efforts to dismantle the physician-led care team model. The TIA law in NJ will help patients understand the certification and credential of their health care team, but we still need to work to ensure nurse anesthetists don't permanently change their title in NJ. Additional legislation must be passed in NJ to prevent the term anesthesiologist from being used by anyone other than a physician. Please consider supporting the next steps in our effort to protect your specialty in our state and stop the dangerous misappropriation of titles by contributing to the NJ Anesthesia PAC!

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### ***OTHER UPCOMING CRITICAL ISSUES FOR OUR SOCIETY***

- **Waiver of APN Joint Protocol Requirements** - The continued relaxation of scope of practice requirements for APNs through January 2022 jeopardizes the team approach to anesthesia care by allowing APNs to temporarily treat patients without physician supervision. It's imperative that our society advocates for this measure to end permanently on January 11, 2022.
- **Lame Duck Session** - NJ is approaching the end of the two-year legislative session. This means that any legislation that hasn't been signed into law will have to be re-introduced in the next session and restart the legislative process. As a result, there is a huge push from various legislators and stakeholders to get their legislation signed before January 11, 2022. Our society is anticipating an all out assault on our specialty as APNs attempt to make independent practice **permanent** in NJ.
- **APN Independent Practice Legislation** - There is already a bill introduced in this session that would eliminate joint protocol requirements for APNs. Your contribution is crucial to stop this bill from moving before the end of the lame duck session.

- **Media Campaign** - Our society has been proactively working with other physician specialties in NJ on an educational campaign to inform legislators of the importance of the team-led approach to care. Preliminary data collected by the coalition indicates that we must continue raising awareness of the dangers of independent practice and protecting the physician-patient relationship.

[Click here to make a contribution today!](#)

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*Thank you to all who have invested in the future of anesthesia through a generous contribution to the New Jersey Anesthesia PAC!*

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**Becoming a monthly supporter of NJAPAC is a simple step that can have a lasting impact on the protection of your patients and your specialty. Your**

**continued support is an investment in the future of safe anesthesia care in  
New Jersey.**

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