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June 8, 2026

The Honorable Melissa Minor-Brown
411 Legislative Ave
Dover, DE 19901

RE: DHA Support for Nurse Anesthetist Reimbursements (HB 435)

Dear Speaker Minor-Brown,

The Delaware Healthcare Association, on behalf of Delaware's hospitals, health systems, and related healthcare organizations, is pleased to support House Bill 435, which requires health insurers to reimburse certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) at the same rate as physicians for comparable anesthesia services.

Strengthening Delaware's healthcare workforce and ensuring access to high-quality, affordable care are two of DHA's top advocacy priorities for 2026, and HB 435 takes steps to advance both priorities. Delaware continues to face a critical shortage of anesthesia providers, including both physician anesthesiologists and CRNAs, who are essential to the safe and effective delivery of care before, during, and after medical procedures.

By establishing reimbursement parity for equivalent anesthesia services, HB 435 promotes greater consistency across payer policies, supports a stable healthcare workforce, and helps sustain access to essential anesthesia services for patients throughout the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to share DHA's support for HB 435 and for your leadership on this important issue. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues in the General Assembly to advance this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Christina Bryan'.

Christina Bryan
Vice President of External Affairs