



Physicians Caring for Texans

**House Committee on Public Health**  
**House Bill 5274 by Rep. Charles Cunningham**  
**Testimony of Ezequiel “Zeke” Silva III, MD, on Behalf of**  
**the Texas Medical Association**  
*April 28, 2025*

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Good evening, my name is Dr. Zeke Silva. I am an interventional radiologist from San Antonio. I also chair the Texas Medical Association’s (TMA’s) Council on Legislation, the body that determines legislative positions for the association.

On behalf of TMA and its more than 59,000 members, we thank Chair Van Deaver, Vice Chair Campos, and the members of the House Public Health Committee for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of House Bill 5274.

Licensure for anesthesiologist assistants is an important step in promoting patient safety. From the start, this means only individuals who have met the education, certification, and criminal background check requirements can lawfully practice as an anesthesiologist assistant. Once an individual is licensed, continuing education requirements support quality clinical care. And if there are concerns about the quality of care, the medical board has the authority to investigate complaints and take disciplinary action.

We support the commonsense steps in HB 5274 for promoting quality care and patient safety. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I am happy to answer any questions.