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SENATE MEMORIAL 65

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 13, 2017 "NEW MEXICO STUDENT NURSES DAY" IN
THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, registered nurses play a critical role in health
care delivery; and

WHEREAS, with an aging United States population, health
care demand is growing at an unprecedented pace; and

WHEREAS, for fifteen consecutive years, nursing has been
ranked by a Gallup poll as the most trusted profession; and

WHEREAS, there will be a nationwide nursing shortage due
to retirements and population growth, and New Mexico has one of
the lowest nurse-to-population ratios in the country; and

WHEREAS, the registered nursing workforce is considered
the top occupation in job growth, projected to increase by
twenty-six percent by 2020; and

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1 WHEREAS, nurses work in a variety of settings, with the
2 majority of nurses employed in hospitals where they face
3 increased complexity in medical issues; and

4 WHEREAS, a variety of roles have emerged within nursing,
5 such as nurse consultant, nurse informatics specialist,
6 researcher, executive, facility nurse, primary care provider,
7 home health care provider and case manager for chronic
8 illnesses; and

9 WHEREAS, nurses work in a variety of settings, including
10 long-term care facilities, homes, correctional facilities,
11 schools, occupational settings and insurance companies, and for
12 regulation entities; and

13 WHEREAS, advanced practice nurses, such as nurse
14 practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse-
15 midwives and certified registered nurse anesthetists, fill the
16 gap on access to health care and provide quality, safe and
17 effective care throughout New Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, New Mexico currently has twenty-seven pre-
19 licensure approved programs of nursing; and

20 WHEREAS, the nursing community is appreciative of the
21 legislative support it has received to promote and enhance
22 efforts to ensure a strong, well-educated and diverse nursing
23 workforce for New Mexico;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
25 OF NEW MEXICO that February 13, 2017 be designated as "New

.207087.1

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1 Mexico Student Nurses Day" in the senate; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the executive director of the New Mexico nurses
4 association.

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