

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING JANUARY 27, 2023 "NEW MEXICO NURSES DAY" IN THE
3 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

4
5 WHEREAS, nurses play a critical role in health care
6 delivery; and

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

9 WHEREAS, for the twentieth consecutive year, nurses have
10 ranked as the most honest and ethical profession, according
11 to a Gallup poll; and

12 WHEREAS, the compassion, resolve and positive impact of
13 nurses over the past few years cannot be overstated; and

14 WHEREAS, from risking their lives as frontline health
15 care professionals during the coronavirus disease 2019
16 pandemic to working longer shifts to meet patient demand,
17 nurses have more than earned their reputation as the most
18 trusted profession; and

19 WHEREAS, there will be a nationwide nursing shortage due
20 to nurse retirements and an increase in demand for services,
21 and New Mexico has one of the lowest nurse-to-population
22 ratios in the country, with approximately seventeen thousand
23 registered nurses; and

24 WHEREAS, to address the shortfall, New Mexico
25 institutions of higher education are focusing on the

1 expansion of accelerated nursing programs and the retention
2 of nurses in the workforce; and

3 WHEREAS, the nursing workforce is considered the top
4 occupation in job growth, with New Mexico's nursing workforce
5 expected to increase over the next four years by
6 approximately eleven percent; and

7 WHEREAS, the majority of nurses are employed by
8 hospitals, where they face increased complexities of
9 patients' medical issues; and

10 WHEREAS, a variety of roles have emerged within nursing,
11 such as nurse consultant, nurse informatics specialist,
12 researcher, executive, facility nurse, home health care
13 provider and case manager for chronic illnesses; and

14 WHEREAS, nurses work in a variety of settings, including
15 long-term care facilities, homes, correctional facilities,
16 schools, occupational settings, insurance companies and
17 regulatory entities; and

18 WHEREAS, advanced practice nurses, such as nurse
19 practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse-
20 midwives and certified registered nurse anesthetists, fill
21 the gap in access to health care and provide quality, safe
22 and effective care throughout New Mexico; and

23 WHEREAS, the nursing community is appreciative of the
24 legislative support it has received to promote adequate
25 staffing of the nursing workforce and for various nursing

1 loan-for-service opportunities that help alleviate the
2 nursing shortage; and

3 WHEREAS, "New Mexico Nurses Day" recognizes nurses for
4 their tremendous effort and compassion as they work
5 collectively to improve the health of individuals, families
6 and communities nationwide;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
8 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 27,
9 2023 be designated as "New Mexico Nurses Day" in the house of
10 representatives. _____

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