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HOUSE MEMORIAL 59

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

INTRODUCED BY

John L. Zimmerman

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 13, 2015 "NEW MEXICO NURSES DAY" IN THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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 the last twelve years, nursing has been the  
most trusted profession, and, in 2014, it ranked fifteen points  
higher than any other profession according to a Gallup poll;  
and

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

WHEREAS, the registered nursing work force is considered

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1 the top occupation in job growth, projected to increase by  
2 twenty-six percent by 2020; and

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

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

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

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

20 WHEREAS, the nursing community is appreciative of the  
21 legislative support it has received to promote adequate  
22 staffing of the nursing work force and for various nursing  
23 loan-for-service opportunities that positively impact the  
24 nursing shortage;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

.199651.1

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1 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 13,  
2 2015 be designated as "New Mexico Nurses Day" in the house of  
3 representatives; and

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