

1 A MEMORIAL

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

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

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

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

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

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

17 WHEREAS, nurses work in a variety of settings, with the
18 majority of nurses employed in hospitals where they face
19 increased complexity in medical issues; and

20 WHEREAS, a variety of roles have emerged within nursing,
21 such as nurse consultant, nurse informatics specialist,
22 researcher, executive, facility nurse, primary care provider,
23 home health care provider and case manager for chronic
24 illnesses; and

25 WHEREAS, nurses work in a variety of settings, including

1 long-term care facilities, homes, correctional facilities,
2 schools, occupational settings and insurance companies, and
3 for regulation entities; and

4 WHEREAS, advanced practice nurses, such as nurse
5 practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified
6 nurse-midwives and certified registered nurse anesthetists,
7 fill the gap on access to health care and provide quality,
8 safe and effective care throughout New Mexico; and

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

11 WHEREAS, the nursing community is appreciative of the
12 legislative support it has received to promote and enhance
13 efforts to ensure a strong, well-educated and diverse nursing
14 workforce for New Mexico;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 13, 2017 be designated as
17 "New Mexico Student Nurses Day" in the senate; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the executive director of the New Mexico
20 nurses association.

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