

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING FEBRUARY 2, 2023 "NEW MEXICO STUDENT NURSES DAY" IN
3 THE SENATE.

4
5 WHEREAS, the American public for the twenty-first
6 consecutive year has ranked nurses number one in Gallup's
7 annual poll as the most honest and ethical profession; and

8 WHEREAS, nursing is one of the fastest growing
9 occupations in the United States and serves as the backbone
10 of the health care delivery system; and

11 WHEREAS, nursing as a career provides economic stability
12 for individuals and their families and has positive economic
13 impacts for communities; and

14 WHEREAS, the 2022 New Mexico health care workforce
15 committee report to the legislature estimated that only
16 sixteen thousand four hundred sixty-six registered nurses
17 holding New Mexico nursing licenses were practicing in the
18 state; and

19 WHEREAS, the same report estimates that despite positive
20 growth, an additional five thousand eight hundred sixty-three
21 registered nurses are needed for New Mexico to begin to meet
22 national benchmarks to ensure quality care; and

23 WHEREAS, nurses serve New Mexico's population across
24 many settings, including community and private health
25 clinics, home care and hospice, schools, nursing facilities,

1 employee health, corrections, research, academia and
2 hospitals; and

3 WHEREAS, the legislature has supported funding for
4 New Mexico's educational institutions to begin to build the
5 capacity of nursing programs to increase New Mexico's supply
6 of registered nurses; and

7 WHEREAS, the board of nursing has approved sixteen
8 pre-licensure programs for nursing that ensure geographic
9 diversity for recruitment of students into the nursing
10 profession; and

11 WHEREAS, the growing number of seriously ill patients
12 creates a demand for more nurses who can provide complex and
13 specialized care; and

14 WHEREAS, today, more than two hundred student nurses
15 from New Mexico are visiting the state capitol;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
17 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 2, 2023 be declared
18 "New Mexico Student Nurses Day" in the senate in honor of all
19 New Mexico student nurses; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the executive director of the board of
22 nursing and the chair of the New Mexico student nurses'
23 association. _____