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SENATE MEMORIAL 20  
**56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

INTRODUCED BY  
Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics

A MEMORIAL

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the 2022 New Mexico health care workforce  
committee report to the legislature estimated that only sixteen  
thousand four hundred sixty-six registered nurses holding New

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1 Mexico nursing licenses were practicing in the state; and

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

6 WHEREAS, nurses serve New Mexico's population across many  
7 settings, including community and private health clinics, home  
8 care and hospice, schools, nursing facilities, employee health,  
9 corrections, research, academia and hospitals; and

10 WHEREAS, the legislature has supported funding for New  
11 Mexico's educational institutions to begin to build the  
12 capacity of nursing programs to increase New Mexico's supply of  
13 registered nurses; and

14 WHEREAS, the board of nursing has approved sixteen  
15 pre-licensure programs for nursing that ensure geographic  
16 diversity for recruitment of students into the nursing  
17 profession; and

18 WHEREAS, the growing number of seriously ill patients  
19 creates a demand for more nurses who can provide complex and  
20 specialized care; and

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

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
24 OF NEW MEXICO that February 2, 2023 be declared "New Mexico  
25 Student Nurses Day" in the senate in honor of all New Mexico

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student nurses; and

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