

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOUSE MEMORIAL 3

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023

INTRODUCED BY

Eleanor Chávez

A MEMORIAL

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

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

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

WHEREAS, from risking their lives as frontline health care professionals during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic to working longer shifts to meet patient demand, nurses have more

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 than earned their reputation as the most trusted profession;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, there will be a nationwide nursing shortage due
4 to nurse retirements and an increase in demand for services,
5 and New Mexico has one of the lowest nurse-to-population ratios
6 in the country, with approximately seventeen thousand
7 registered nurses; and

8 WHEREAS, to address the shortfall, New Mexico institutions
9 of higher education are focusing on the expansion of
10 accelerated nursing programs and the retention of nurses in the
11 workforce; and

12 WHEREAS, the nursing workforce is considered the top
13 occupation in job growth, with New Mexico's nursing workforce
14 expected to increase over the next four years by approximately
15 eleven percent; and

16 WHEREAS, the majority of nurses are employed by hospitals,
17 where they face increased complexities of patients' medical
18 issues; and

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

23 WHEREAS, nurses work in a variety of settings, including
24 long-term care facilities, homes, correctional facilities,
25 schools, occupational settings, insurance companies and

.223926.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 regulatory entities; and

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

7 WHEREAS, the nursing community is appreciative of the
8 legislative support it has received to promote adequate
9 staffing of the nursing workforce and for various nursing loan-
10 for-service opportunities that help alleviate the nursing
11 shortage; and

12 WHEREAS, "New Mexico Nurses Day" recognizes nurses for
13 their tremendous effort and compassion as they work
14 collectively to improve the health of individuals, families and
15 communities nationwide;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
17 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 27,
18 2023 be designated as "New Mexico Nurses Day" in the house of
19 representatives.