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SENATE MEMORIAL 52

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

Howie C. Morales

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 3, 2016 "NEW MEXICO STUDENT NURSES DAY" IN
THE SENATE.

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 population growth, and New Mexico has one of
the lowest nurse-to-population ratios in the country; and

WHEREAS, the registered nursing workforce 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 workforce and for various nursing loan-
23 for-service opportunities that positively impact the nursing
24 shortage;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE

.203366.1

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1 OF NEW MEXICO that February 3, 2016 be designated as "New
2 Mexico Student Nurses Day" in the senate; and

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

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