

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

**CELEBRATING THE WEEK OF MAY 6TH THROUGH MAY 12TH AS "NATIONAL
NURSES WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Senator Samuel W. Bell

Date Introduced: May 12, 2022

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, National Nurses Week is held May 6th through May 12th in order to
2 coincide with and celebrate Florence Nightingale's birthday on the 12th. She was a nurse who
3 became famous for treating wounded soldiers during the Crimean War, and for her efforts in
4 establishing nursing as a profession. She was affectionately known as "The Lady with the Lamp"
5 because during the war, she made a lot of her ward rounds at night whilst carrying a lamp; and

6 WHEREAS, This week is a time to acknowledge, honor, and express our heartfelt
7 gratitude to Rhode Island's brave, dedicated, and determined nurses who day after day and month
8 after month care for us and particularly their long days and months of work on the frontlines
9 throughout our struggles with the pandemic; and

10 WHEREAS, Registered nurses in the United States constitute this nation's largest
11 healthcare profession; and

12 WHEREAS, The depth and breadth of the registered nursing profession have met and
13 exceeded the different and emerging healthcare needs of the American population during this
14 pandemic and in a wide range of settings; and

15 WHEREAS, The American Nurses Association, as the voice for registered nurses across
16 this country, is working to chart a new course for a healthy nation that relies on increasing
17 delivery of primary and preventive healthcare and requiring better utilization of all our nation's
18 registered nursing resources; and

19 WHEREAS, Professional nursing has demonstrated itself to be an indispensable

1 component in providing safety and quality of care for hospitalized patients and for playing a
2 pivotal role in addressing the concerns and quelling community fears during the current
3 pandemic; and

4 WHEREAS, The demand for registered nursing services is greater than ever, due to the
5 aging of the American population, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technologies, the
6 explosive growth of home healthcare services, and the need to develop coordinated networking to
7 prevent and contain new and emergent widespread infectious diseases; and

8 WHEREAS, More qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the
9 increasingly complex needs of healthcare consumers in this country and across the world; and

10 WHEREAS, The cost-effective, safe, and high-quality healthcare services provided by
11 registered nurses will be an increasingly important component of the United States healthcare
12 delivery system in the future; now, therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby joins the American
14 Nurses Association in celebrating the week of May 6th through May 12th, 2022, as "National
15 Nurses Week"; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That this Senate moreover urges all the residents of the State to join in
17 honoring and thanking the registered nurses who have selflessly cared for us all, and to celebrate
18 their efforts and accomplishments in improving our healthcare system, not just during this week,
19 but at every opportunity throughout the year; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
21 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the American Nurses Association, the United
22 Nurses & Allied Professionals, and the Rhode Island State Nurses Association.

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