**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE THE WEEK OF MAY 6 THROUGH MAY 12, 2019, AS NATIONAL NURSES WEEK IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO ENCOURAGE ALL SOUTH CAROLINIANS TO JOIN IN SHOWING APPRECIATION FOR THE NATION’S REGISTERED NURSES, IN HONORING THEM AS THEY CARE FOR THEIR PATIENTS, AND IN CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF REGISTERED NURSES AND THEIR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.

Whereas, registered nurses in the United States constitute the nation’s largest healthcare profession; and

Whereas, in South Carolina nurses represent the largest number of professional healthcare providers; and

Whereas, registered nurses meet the diverse and emerging healthcare needs of South Carolinians in a wide range of settings through the depth and breadth of their profession; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Nurses Association and the American Nurses Association, the voice for registered nurses in this country, are working to chart a new course for a healthy nation that relies on increasing delivery of primary and preventive healthcare; and

Whereas, a renewed emphasis on primary and preventive healthcare will require better utilization of all the nation’s registered nursing resources; and

Whereas, professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care for hospitalized patients; and

Whereas, the demand for registered‑nursing services will be greater than ever due to the aging of the South Carolina population, the continuing expansion of life‑sustaining technologies, and the explosive growth of home healthcare services; and

Whereas, more qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of healthcare consumers in the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, the cost‑effective, safe, and high‑quality healthcare services provided by registered nurses will be an increasingly important component of the United States healthcare delivery system in the future, and

Whereas, the South Carolina Nurses Association along with the American Nurses Association, has declared the week of May 6 through May 12, 2019, as National Nurses Week, with the theme “4 Million Reasons to Celebrate,” a nod to the sheer numbers of nurses, and with an open invitation to #ThankaNurse for the meaningful impact that nurses make, enriching our lives and the world in which we live. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, declare the week of May 6 through May 12, 2019, as National Nurses Week in the State of South Carolina and encourage all South Carolinians to join in showing appreciation for the nation’s registered nurses, in honoring them as they care for their patients, and in celebrating the accomplishments of registered nurses and their efforts to improve the healthcare system.

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