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SR-34 (2019-2020)

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ENROLLED MAY 07, 2019

PASSED IN SENATE MAY 06, 2019

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2019–2020 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE RESOLUTION

NO. 34

Introduced by Senator Caballero

April 25, 2019

Relative to National Nurses Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SR 34, Caballero.

WHEREAS, Nurses are the people responsible for the treatment, safety, and recovery of all acutely or chronically ill persons, and nurses understand the complexities of an illness; and

WHEREAS, According to the California Health Care Foundation, California is home to more than 330,000 actively licensed registered nurses (RNs), and nurses make the single largest health profession in the state; and

WHEREAS, Nurses are at the front line of administering and evaluating treatments, and everyday medicine would not exist without nurses; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, nursing employment opportunities are projected to increase by 16% by the year 2024, which is much faster than average; and

WHEREAS, Although California's RN workforce remains predominantly female, in recent years, more men have been entering the RN workforce. The share of men working in the RN workforce within this state has more than doubled between 1993 and 2008; and

WHEREAS, California's RN workforce has become increasingly racially and ethnically diverse over the past two decades. Since 1990, the population of nurses of color increased from 23% to 41%; and

WHEREAS, In 1954, the first National Nurses Week was observed during the period of October 11 through 16, and the week also honored the 100th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's work in Crimea; and

WHEREAS, In 1974, President Nixon declared the first official National Nurses Week in the month of February; and

WHEREAS, In 1974, the International Council of Nurses officially proclaimed May 12 as International Nurses Day; and

WHEREAS, In 1990, the American Nurses Association introduced National Nurses Week; and

WHEREAS, In 1993, the Board of Directors of the American Nurses Association recognized May 6 through 12 as a time to observe National Nurses Week, which commenced in 1994 and has been celebrated in the following years; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate hereby acknowledges the week of May 6, 2019, to May 12, 2019, as National Nurses Week, and encourages the people of the State of California to recognize and support the work of our nurses in their communities, schools, hospitals, and throughout the health sector; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.