



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 6-12, 2022 AS "NATIONAL NURSES WEEK"

- WHEREAS*, On March 25th, 1982, President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation declaring "National Recognition Day for Nurses" to be May 6, 1982; *and*
- WHEREAS*, In 1990, the American Nurses Association expanded the recognition of nurses to a week-long celebration of "National Nurses Week" for 1991 beginning on May 6th with "National Nurses Day," through May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing; *and*
- WHEREAS*, As of 1998, May 8th is designated as "National Student Nurses Day," and as of 2003, "National School Nurse Day" is celebrated on the Wednesday within "National Nurses Week" each year; *and*
- WHEREAS*, Nurses represent the largest single component of the healthcare profession, with an estimated population of more than 4,000,000 registered nurses in the country; *and*
- WHEREAS*, Nurses are public health heroes who make our communities safer and healthier, and contribute to our community as community advocates, educators, and providers of critical health services; *and*
- WHEREAS*, On the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic, nurses are the cornerstone of our public health infrastructure, promoting healthy lifestyles, educating communities on disease prevention and health promotion, and providing critical care in a variety of settings; *and*
- WHEREAS*, Over 160,000 nurses work in Massachusetts, including Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners, staff nurses, nurse educators, school nurses, public health nurses, long-term care nurses, nurse managers, and nurses in many other practice areas; *and*
- WHEREAS*, Over 10,000 nurses provide compassionate care and healing in hospitals and medical centers located in the City of Boston, many of which are charitable and non-profit hospitals making contributions to our communities, while others have made conversions from non-profit status to for-profit entities; *and*
- WHEREAS*, The Massachusetts Nurses Association survey of registered nurses has found that the pandemic has exacerbated existing problems within the Massachusetts healthcare system, including overburdened emergency departments, nurse burnout and turnover, and a lack of support from employers; *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT*
- RESOLVED*: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, designates May 6-12, 2022 as "National Nurses Week" in the City of Boston in order to recognize the significant contributions of all nurses, implore healthcare employers to drastically improve working conditions for our nurses, and express Boston's deep gratitude to our nurses for all that they do for our communities.