

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 459

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The observance of Texas Black Nurses Day on  
2 March 29, 2023, serves as an opportunity to highlight the  
3 contributions of Black nurses and to raise awareness of the  
4 importance of diversity in the nursing profession; and

5           WHEREAS, Although the nursing workforce in the state of Texas  
6 remains predominately Caucasian, the number of Black nurses in  
7 Texas has grown to more closely mirror statewide demographics;  
8 according to statistics compiled by the Texas Board of Nursing in  
9 2019, Black nurses represent around 14 percent of the total number  
10 of registered and licensed vocational nurses in Texas; Black  
11 individuals also constitute over 11 percent of our state's  
12 registered nurses, compared to 6.7 percent of registered nurses  
13 nationwide, and further represent 17.8 percent of faculty in  
14 registered nursing pre-licensure programs throughout the state;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, As Texas becomes increasingly more diverse, there is  
17 a greater need for a diverse nursing workforce with the ability to  
18 provide quality, culturally informed patient care to a variety of  
19 populations; a growing body of research supports the benefits,  
20 including improved patient care and cost savings, from having a  
21 health care workforce that more closely resembles the population it  
22 serves; compared to their White counterparts, Black nurses are more  
23 likely to practice in underserved areas with a larger percentage of  
24 Black families and are also more likely to accept patients who are

1 covered by Medicaid, thus helping to bring their communities closer  
2 to achieving health equity; and

3 WHEREAS, The Black nurses of our state have earned our  
4 deepest gratitude for the tremendous skill and passion they have  
5 demonstrated and for their noble commitment to the health and  
6 well-being of their patients, and it is indeed fitting that a  
7 special day be set aside to honor them; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
9 Legislature hereby recognize March 29, 2023, as Texas Black Nurses  
10 Day and commend Black nurses across the Lone Star State for the  
11 compassion, expertise, and professionalism they bring to their  
12 vocation.