

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 271

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to welcome the registered nurses and licensed vocational nurses who are visiting the State Capitol as part of Nurse Day at the Capitol on March 1, 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, The 140,000 registered nurses and 60,000 licensed vocational nurses caring for Texans every day in hospitals, nursing homes, and home health agencies are critical to the quality of health care provided in our state; and

**WHEREAS**, There are currently 100,000 vacant positions in the nursing field in our country, and by the year 2020, it is estimated there will be a national shortage of 800,000 registered nurses; with the world population living longer, there are excellent opportunities for nursing students to obtain professional positions in the health-care field; and

**WHEREAS**, Despite the fact that hospitals and other employers need and would hire significantly more nurses, Texas nursing schools have been forced to turn away thousands of qualified applicants because of a lack of adequate faculty positions; and

**WHEREAS**, This legislature is faced with the challenge of finding effective ways to address this critical shortage of nurses and of making certain that Texas nursing schools can prepare the number of nurses that Texas needs; and

**WHEREAS**, Nurses are held in high esteem by the citizens of Texas, and as indicated by national polls, nursing is one of the nation's most trusted professions; and

**WHEREAS**, The care and support nurses provide their patients is beyond price, and these dedicated professionals are indeed deserving of our respect and admiration; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby proclaim March 1, 2005, Nurse Day at the Capitol and commend all nurses attending this event for their invaluable service; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of the Resolution be prepared in honor of the nursing profession as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Nelson

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 1, 2005.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate