

# SENATE RESOLUTION No. 105

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 215th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 25, 2013

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY**

**District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)**

**Senator LORETTA WEINBERG**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Senator JIM WHELAN**

**District 2 (Atlantic)**

**Senator DAWN MARIE ADDIEGO**

**District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Madden and Ruiz**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates May 6 through May 12, 2013 as "National Nurses' Week" in New Jersey.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/31/2013)**

SR105 SWEENEY, WEINBERG

2

1 A **SENATE RESOLUTION** designating the week of May 6 through  
2 May 12, 2013 as "National Nurses' Week" in New Jersey.

3

4 **WHEREAS**, The week of May 6 through May 12, 2013 is recognized as  
5 National Nurses' Week. The week honors a respected profession  
6 that provides essential health care to patients in hospitals, private  
7 residences, nursing homes, clinics, and other settings; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Nurses work in challenging environments every day, often  
9 for long hours, in order to provide quality health care to all in need;  
10 and

11 **WHEREAS**, In the next 10 years, a nursing shortage is forecast for the  
12 State of New Jersey and the rest of the country. Additional  
13 recruitment, training, and support for people currently working as  
14 nurses, and those who are interested in pursuing nursing as a  
15 profession, are needed to address this projected shortage; and

16 **WHEREAS**, A changing environment for health care workers,  
17 including, but not limited to, health care mergers, health care  
18 reform, and the emergence of for-profit hospitals and surgical  
19 centers, have placed new responsibilities and additional challenges  
20 on the nursing profession; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Nurses not only need our appreciation but should be  
22 afforded the right to speak up for quality patient care and  
23 appropriate staffing levels in health care facilities. Nurses should  
24 also have to right to speak to the current challenges facing the  
25 nursing profession; and

26 **WHEREAS**, A nurse's responsibility to speak up for patients and the  
27 care they receive is included in the American Nurses Association  
28 Code of Ethics; and

29 **WHEREAS**, Nurses and other union members working in the health  
30 care industry have been instrumental in promoting innovative laws  
31 and modern standards protecting community hospitals, and have put  
32 community health care needs ahead of profits; and

33 **WHEREAS**, The voices of nurses as frontline caregivers are invaluable  
34 to policy makers within the health care industry and in the halls of  
35 the State House of Trenton; and

36 **WHEREAS**, The right of nurses to bargain for fair and safe working  
37 conditions, appropriate staffing levels in health care facilities, and  
38 quality health care is essential to the safety and well-being of the  
39 patients they serve; and

40 **WHEREAS**, It is fitting for the Senate to honor the nurses of this State  
41 and the entire nursing profession during National Nurses' Week;  
42 now, therefore,

43

44 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:

45

46 1. May 6 through May 12, 2013 is designated as "National  
47 Nurses' Week" in New Jersey to honor all the nurses who work  
48 tirelessly to provide quality health care to the citizens of this State,

1 to acknowledge the importance of protecting and supporting the  
2 rights of nurses to speak up for their patients and their profession,  
3 and to recognize that the right of nurses to bargain for fair and safe  
4 working conditions, appropriate staffing levels in health care  
5 facilities, and quality health care is essential to the safety and well-  
6 being of the patients they serve.

7

8 2. The Governor shall issue a proclamation and call upon  
9 public officials, State lawmakers, and the citizens of this State to  
10 observe "National Nurses' Week" with appropriate events and  
11 activities.

12

13

14

STATEMENT

15

16 This resolution designates May 6 through May 12, 2013 as  
17 "National Nurses' Week" in New Jersey to honor all the nurses who  
18 work tirelessly to provide quality health care to the citizens of this  
19 State, to acknowledge the importance of protecting and supporting  
20 the rights of nurses to speak up for their patients and their  
21 profession, and to recognize that the right of nurses to bargain for  
22 fair and safe working conditions, appropriate staffing levels in  
23 health care facilities, and quality health care is essential to the  
24 safety and well-being of the patients they serve.