



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the finest examples of humanitarian spirit, caring, and compassion are found among the family of New Yorkers and, while the eyes of the world are fixed upon our state as the epicenter of the coronavirus pandemic, hearts are inspired at witnessing the remarkable dedication and abilities of our respected medical professionals – and we therefore join in this nationwide observance of Nurses Month to distinctly honor the selfless community of nurses across New York State who stand at the front lines of protecting and preserving human life with impressive strength, expertise, and sacrifice; and

Whereas, the global coronavirus pandemic has magnified the heroic work carried out by nurses across our country and their immeasurably important role during times of national emergency, so that the traditional observance of National Nurses Week has been extended to a month-long period of recognition, and we humbly take this opportunity to express appreciation and support for nurses working in all areas who show courage and compassion under extremely difficult and demanding circumstances; and

Whereas, Nurses Month highlights the critical role this community of healthcare professionals has in our society and in our lives, well reflected in the theme, “Nurses Make a Difference,” and this health crisis has shown the world that these words indeed ring true; and

Whereas, on a daily basis, nurses are essential to the health and care of people, and in New York State this community includes 328,347 registered professional nurses, which encompasses 29,645 certified nurse practitioners and 416 clinical nurse specialists, as well as the 69,716 licensed practical nurses practicing in this state who hold many levels of expertise and proficiency; and

Whereas, we thank the thousands of nurses from across our state and nation, and beyond, who came out of retirement to generously volunteer their service and provide care to their fellow human beings, and others who were deployed by the federal government, dutifully stepping forward in this unprecedented time in our history to help New York State meet overwhelming medical needs; and

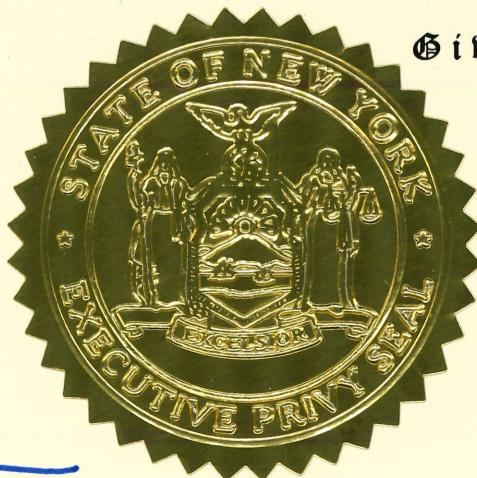
Whereas, as the largest component of our statewide and nationwide healthcare community, more than ever, we support and recognize our nurses as they demonstrate courage and compassion under extremely challenging circumstances – whether it is working endless days and long shifts under the physical and emotional duress of this current health emergency or performing vital daily care, the impact nurses have on the health and well-being of our communities and people is incalculable; and

Whereas, May 12th marks the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, who was the founder of the science of professional nursing, and we take this opportunity to honor and thank all nurses practicing in our state and nation who uphold the “Nightingale Pledge” of 1893 and stand firmly as the cornerstone of patient care; today, we are grateful for the thousands who answered the call to this profession, who continue to meet unparalleled challenges, knowing that it takes extraordinary individuals in these extraordinary times to compassionately tend to our fellow human beings until their final moment, and thankfully help countless others return to good health;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 2020 as

NURSES MONTH

in the Empire State.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-ninth
day of April in the year two thousand twenty.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor
Melissa DeRosa