



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State joins in the observance of Nurses Month to recognize our nation's 4.7 million registered nurses whose vast expertise and proficiency contribute to our overall health care delivery system and to ensuring the best possible outcomes for all patients; and

Whereas, throughout the uncertain times of the COVID-19 pandemic, our nation's nurses demonstrated unprecedented courage in protecting and caring for patients with the utmost dignity and respect and, therefore, the traditional observance of National Nurses Week has been extended to a month-long period of well-deserved recognition; and

Whereas, in New York State, this diverse community is comprised of 453,842 Registered Professional Nurses, which include 45,043 Licensed Nurse Practitioners under whose direction are 65,479 Licensed Practical Nurses who hold many levels of expertise and proficiency; additionally, there are 1,422 New York State Licensed Midwives, many of whom are also nurses and use the title "Certified Nurse-Midwife" or "Nurse-Midwife," and have completed registered nursing and midwifery education; and

Whereas, nurses embody a spirit of purpose and heartfelt care for others, and New York State understands that we need more nurses to help provide safe medical environments for all people and created the *Nurses of Our Future* scholarship program and *Nurses Across New York* loan repayment program to recruit and retrain nursing and health care professionals; and

Whereas, the American Nurses Association has chosen as this year's theme, "The Power of Nurses," with expressed appreciation for nurses' immeasurable impact working in all areas and settings—acute care, long-term care, emergency and urgent care, and within hospitals, offices, schools, community resources, and rehabilitation and recovery centers; and

Whereas, nurses have led the way and advocated successfully for improving care and enhancing patient safety in their work and in our laws, directly affecting the health outcomes for people, delivering quality patient care and services, as well as influencing and shaping policy decisions that ensure all people have access to high-quality, affordable health care coverage; and

Whereas, May 12th marks the 225th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, founder of the science of professional nursing, and we take this opportunity to honor and thank all nurses practicing in our state and nation for their contributions to health care, with an open invitation to #ThankANurse for enriching our lives and the world we live in; and

Whereas, today, the breadth and range of the nursing profession continues to meet the complex, evolving, and emerging health care needs of people in diverse settings; we extend our appreciation to the community of nursing professionals in New York State who, as the cornerstones of patient care, are leaders in improving the quality of care and seeking ways to address the constantly evolving needs of our society;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 2025 as

NURSES MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-third
day of April in the year two thousand twenty-five.

Kathy Hochul
Governor

Karen Persichilli Keogh
Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh