

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 11

BY BOETTGER

A Resolution recognizing nursing students and faculty.

WHEREAS, all Iowans benefit from the service provided by registered nurses; and

WHEREAS, 38,091 registered nurses were actively licensed in Iowa on July 1, 2003, but 37 percent of hospitals and long-term care facilities reported an average of 60 days or longer to fill vacancies; and

WHEREAS, the average age of most registered and licensed practical nurses is 46; and

WHEREAS, the nursing shortage is projected to intensify over the next two decades; and

WHEREAS, as of December 2003, 36 full-time and 41 part-time nursing faculty vacancies existed at Iowa nursing colleges; and

WHEREAS, the graduation rate of masters and doctorally prepared registered nurses will not be sufficient to address a projected retirement of 49 percent of nursing faculty in Iowa by 2010; and

WHEREAS, high nurse turnover and vacancy rates, as well as the shortage of nursing faculty, negatively impact patient well-being; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Iowa Senate designates February 12, 2004, as Iowa Nursing Student and Faculty Day and invites the citizens of Iowa to recognize the need for both men and women to choose nursing as a career and to encourage the education of registered nurses at all educational levels.

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SR 111 RULES & ADMINISTRATION