

Senate Resolution 109 - Introduced

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY JOCHUM

1 A Resolution celebrating the centennial anniversary of
2 the Dubuque Visiting Nurse Association.

3 WHEREAS, in 1910 typhoid fever, tuberculosis,
4 and malaria were prevalent, there was no enforced
5 quarantine for smallpox, diphtheria, or scarlet fever,
6 and most babies were born at home; and

7 WHEREAS, Blanche Cooke, a deaconess at St. Luke's
8 Church in Dubuque, resolved to do something to combat
9 these lethal threats; and

10 WHEREAS, in February 1910, her work and dedication
11 helped create the Dubuque Visiting Nurse Association
12 (VNA); and

13 WHEREAS, the first employee of the VNA was Jessie
14 Keys, who served as director, nurse, and secretary; and

15 WHEREAS, Ms. Keys was a dynamo of ideas and
16 activity, initiating the Dubuque school nurse program,
17 the Open Window Room for physically handicapped
18 children, the sale of Christmas Health Seals to fight
19 tuberculosis, and a day camp for children; and

20 WHEREAS, a century later VNA staff members travel
21 thousands of miles throughout Dubuque County serving
22 nursing, homemaking, and personal care clients,
23 doing oral health screenings, and giving childhood
24 immunizations, as well as serving patients for other
25 VNA programs; NOW THEREFORE,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate
27 congratulates the Dubuque Visiting Nurse Association
28 on its centennial anniversary and honors the countless

1 VNA care and service providers, who for 100 years have
2 provided care and comfort to those in need.