WHEREAS, there are more than 21,500 nurses licensed in the state of North Dakota working to meet the different and emerging health care needs of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care in a wide range of health care settings, and the demand for nursing services will be greater than ever before due to an aging population, nursing enrollment verses nurses retiring ratio and the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technology; and

WHEREAS, cost-effective, safe and quality health care services provided by nurses is and will continue to be an increasingly important component of North Dakota's health care delivery system in the future; and

WHEREAS, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, it was evident how professional nursing is critical for assuring public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, many North Dakota nurses are on the front lines caring for patients and fighting to save lives while often risking their own physical and mental health.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 6, 2022, NURSES DAY in the State of North Dakota.