

APRIL 2010 Nurse Practitioner Month

as officially declared by Governor David Paterson



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State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the Empire State places the highest priority on quality healthcare for all of our citizens and appreciates the many professionals who contribute to our State's excellent system of medical care, including nurse practitioners who work alongside primary care physicians in a variety of settings ranging from outpatient clinics, hospitals and nursing homes, to schools and private offices; and

Whereas, nurse practitioner programs serve as a bridge within the medical community, having first been developed in the 1960's by public health pioneers Dr. H. Silver and Dr. Loretta Ford as a means of offering primary healthcare – especially for children – in underpopulated and rural areas; and

Whereas, in response to the need for more physicians, Drs. Silver and Ford acted to make healthcare accessible to all people, and these visionary leaders in medicine established the first Nurse Practitioner Program which gave Registered Nurses the capability to offer specified primary healthcare services; and

Whereas, the success of the Nurse Practitioner Program was immediate and the movement grew, whereby advanced educational programs give many nurses today the opportunity to increase their medical knowledge and fill crucial healthcare needs within our society; and

Whereas, this year marks the 22nd anniversary of the enactment of Chapter 257 of the New York Laws of 1988 – the legislation that recognizes and licenses certified nurse practitioners and broadens the scope of services they perform, enabling them to act as primary care providers under certain circumstances and in various capacities; and

Whereas, throughout this State, more than 13,000 nurse practitioners serve as an integral component of our healthcare system, focusing on prevention as well as the treatment of health problems, and it is fitting that we recognize these professionals within the medical community for their dedication, compassion and significant contributions to the health and well-being of New Yorkers;

Now, Therefore, I, David A. Paterson, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim April 2010 as

NURSE PRACTITIONER 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 twelfth day
of February in the year two thousand ten.

David A. Paterson

Governor

Janice Schwartz
Secretary to the Governor