WHEREAS, National Nurses Week is a time to recognize and honor this year's theme “A Voice to Lead – A Vision for Future Healthcare.” It is also a time to acknowledge and express our heartfelt gratitude to our State’s brave, dedicated, and determined nurses who are and have been on the frontlines day after day, and month after month for more than a year, working to save the lives of our loved ones during the global COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Registered nurses in the United States constitute this nation's largest healthcare profession; and

WHEREAS, The depth and breadth of the registered nursing profession have met and exceeded the different and emerging healthcare needs of the American population during this pandemic and in a wide range of settings; and

WHEREAS, The American Nurses Association, as the voice for registered nurses across this country, is working to chart a new course for a healthy nation that relies on increasing delivery of primary and preventive healthcare and requiring better utilization of all our nation's registered nursing resources; and

WHEREAS, Professional nursing has demonstrated itself to be an indispensable component in providing safety and quality of care for hospitalized patients and for playing a pivotal role in addressing the concerns and quelling community fears during the current pandemic; and

WHEREAS, The demand for registered nursing services is greater than ever, due to the
aging of the American population, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technologies, the
explosive growth of home healthcare services, and the need to develop coordinated networking to
prevent and contain new and emergent widespread infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, More qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the
increasingly complex needs of healthcare consumers in this country and across the world; and

WHEREAS, The cost-effective, safe, and high-quality healthcare services provided by
registered nurses will be an increasingly important component of the United States healthcare
delivery system in the future; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
joins the American Nurses Association in celebrating the week of May 6th through May 12th,
2021, as "National Nurses Week"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this House moreover urges all the residents of the State to join in
honoring and thanking the registered nurses who have selflessly cared for us all, and to celebrate
their efforts and accomplishments in improving our healthcare system, not just during this week,
but at every opportunity throughout the year; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the American Nurses Association, the United
Nurses & Allied Professionals, and the Rhode Island State Nurses Association.