

(May 11, 2006) Recognizing National Nurses Week

Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of America's 2.9 million registered nurses and recognize National Nurses Week, celebrated annually May 6-12 throughout the United States. The purpose of National Nurses Week is to raise public awareness of the value of nursing and to help educate the public about the vital roles registered nurses play in meeting the health care needs of the American people. America's nurses comprise our nation's largest health care profession. They continue to meet the different, emerging, and challenging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings. Nurses enhance both primary and preventive health care and are an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients. It is my honor to recognize registered nurses who care for all of us. Today, we celebrate registered nursing's accomplishments and efforts to improve our health care system and show our appreciation for the nation's registered nurses not just during this week, but at every opportunity throughout the year.