



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

JOHN D. CHERRY, JR.  
LT. GOVERNOR

May, 2008

Dear Friends:

In observance of National Nurses Week, I want to say a special word of thanks to you, Michigan's 147,000 nurses, for your dedication to the health and well-being of Michigan's citizens. Your commitment to the nursing profession and to those you care for is second to none.

According to the 11<sup>th</sup> Gallup Poll, "nurses rank first among America's most respected professions for their honesty and integrity, and have consistently rated first every year . . ." This kind of achievement doesn't just happen. Recognition is earned, and you have continued to earn it year after year because of your hard work and dedication to the people you serve.

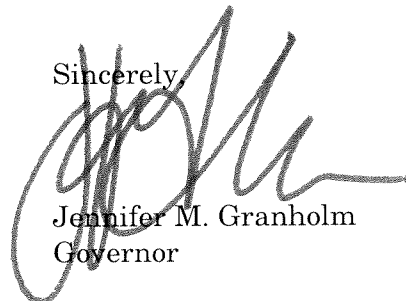
You are especially deserving of recognition for your service in the face of the nation's nursing shortage. Thank you for the many additional hours of care that you put in to assure that patients receive the highest quality care.

Whether you teach new mothers how to care for their infants, tend to patients in the hospital, monitor communicable diseases within your community, help diabetic children in school, teach our nursing students, or are nurse researchers contributing to the knowledge base and scientific breakthroughs, each one of you makes a profound difference in the lives of virtually every one of Michigan's nearly ten million residents.

I pledge to you my continued support and action to address the nursing shortage in Michigan. This year we were able to fund the first phase of my Michigan Nursing Corps to rapidly prepare nursing educators. I am confident that, together with all stakeholders in the health care profession, we will be successful in meeting the nursing care needs of this great state.

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, it is my pleasure to recognize you for your many contributions to the advancement of health care in Michigan. And again, please accept my heartfelt thanks during National Nurses Week, and know that your tireless efforts are most deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,



Jennifer M. Granholm  
Governor