

TOPIC: IN SUPPORT OF IMPLEMENTING AND EXPANDING CODE LAVENDER INTO TEACHING HOSPITALS FOR HEALTHCARE STUDENT WELL-BEING.

SUBMITTED BY: Texas Tech University Health Science Center Student Nurses' Association, Lubbock, TX

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WHEREAS: In recent years, reports of suicidal ideation, sexual violence, turnover rates, and stress have risen among healthcare workers and students due to immersion into a profession focused on the health of others, inadvertently decreasing the amount of care allotted to the workers and students themselves; and

WHEREAS: Increased nurse turnover rates exacerbate demand on nurses, leading to emotional distress, decreased coping ability, medical errors, disengagement, and decrease in nursing and patient satisfaction; and

WHEREAS: Comparatively, nurses experience higher rates of sexual harassment than other professions, with 40% of staff willingly reporting violence and 50% of victims reporting battles with psychological disturbances afterward; and

WHEREAS: Evidence suggests that there are increased risks of self-harm in nursing students of both sexes, with females having higher rates of suicide regardless of past mental health history juxtaposed to non-nursing students; and

WHEREAS: Code Lavender, a program developed by the Cleveland Clinic, has been used as a tool for staff support addressing stressful events in the medical setting unique to healthcare worker task load, emotional labor, and crisis; and

WHEREAS: Implementation of a team of volunteers acting to provide real-time mental health service to employees, coined as Code Lavender, tripled questionnaire results reflecting knowledge and access to mental health support within healthcare first responders; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: The National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) promotes the implementation and expansion of Code Lavender to academic medical centers to reduce student mental health crises; and be it further

RESOLVED: The National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) recognizes the impact of Code Lavender on the healthcare student body; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the NSNA send a copy of this resolution to the American Nurses Association, American Academy of Nursing, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, American Board of Education, American Public Health Association, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, National Alliance on Mental Illness, Mental Health Nurses, National Association of School Nurses, National League for

Nursing, National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing, and all others deemed appropriate by the NSNA Board of Directors.