**TOPIC: IN SUPPORT OF IMPLEMENTING PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS IN THE NURSING CURICULUM**

**SUBMITTED BY: Grand View University, Des Moines, IA**

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WHEREAS, With worldwide travel and exploitation of the environment, the possibility of a pandemic has greatly increased (Gandhi et al., 2021, p.1); and

WHEREAS, As nurses are the largest group of healthcare professionals in the nation, and serve as front-line workers during pandemics, it is crucial to implement pandemic preparedness education in the nursing curriculum (Melton Stein, 2017, p.128); and

WHEREAS, Graduate nurses feel unprepared to respond effectively to disaster situations, including pandemics, due to lack of curriculum content in nursing programs (Bulson, 2020, p.213-215); and

WHEREAS, Studies show that nearly 80% of nursing staff are not confident in their preparedness to a public health emergency (Bulson, 2020, p.217); and

WHEREAS,  It is essential that nursing students are educated on pandemic preparedness in the nursing curriculum to better prepare future nurses to respond to future pandemics (Kane et al., 2022, p.119); and

WHEREAS, Schools are addressing this issue through the implementation of pandemic response simulations (Gandhi et al., 2021, p.1-7); and

WHEREAS, With the implementation of pandemic preparedness in curriculum student nurses expressed improved knowledge and skills regarding pandemic response (Gandhi et al., 2021, p.5); and

WHEREAS, Student nurses who participate in simulations gain valuable hands on experience (Gandhi et al., 2021, p.6); and

WHEREAS, Pandemic response simulations enhance student knowledge, better preparing future nurses to respond to real biological disasters (Gandhi et al., 2021, p.6); and

WHEREAS, Embedding pandemic preparedness in nursing curriculum will increase health care systems ability to effectively handle biological disasters (Gandhi et al, 2021, p.6); therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Iowa Association of Nursing Students (IANS) support and encourage constituents to implement evidence-based programs such as pandemic simulations to improve future nurses’ ability to respond to pandemics; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the IANS encourage its constituents to support national accrediting agencies to standardize pandemic preparedness education in nursing curriculum; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the IANS publish this resolution in the IANS newsletter and IANS website about the benefits of incorporating pandemic simulations in nursing curriculum, if feasible and be it further;

RESOLVED, that the IANS send a copy of this resolution to the American Nurses Association, National league for Nursing, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Organization for Associate Degree Nursing, Emergency Nurses Association, United States Department of Health and Human services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Sigma Theta Tau international, Association of Public Health Nurses, and all others deemed appropriate by the IANS Board of Directors.