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DATE: May 2, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Commissioners Recognize National Nurses Week May 6 – 12, 2016

In recognition of the service and dedication provided by the nearly 3.4 million registered nurses in the United States, the Board of County Commissioners today passed the National Nurses Week Proclamation.

The American Nurses Association and Haywood Regional Medical Center have declared the week of May 6-12 as National Nurses Week, with the theme **Culture of Safety – It Starts with You**. The week acknowledges the way in which nurses strive to provide safe and high quality patient care and to map out strategies to improve our healthcare system.

A large group of nurses from the Haywood Regional Medical Center attended the Commissioner's meeting to present their request to the commissioners. Marty Stamey, Senior Operations Director, Haywood Medical Center, spoke of the expanding role of nurses in healthcare, noting that "Each of us, at some part of our lives, has been touched by the care of nurses". Vice Chairman Kirkpatrick read the proclamation into the official record and recalled his many positive experiences at the hospital.

The proclamation asked residents of Haywood County to celebrate nurses' accomplishments and efforts to improve the healthcare system, and to show their appreciation for the nation's nurses not just during this week, but at every opportunity throughout the year.