

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION  
OF  
HEALTH CARE WORKER SHORTAGE**

**WHEREAS**, there currently exists a shortage of nurses, allied health professionals and other skilled health care givers throughout the metropolitan Chicago region; and

**WHEREAS**, health care is a significant driver of the region's economy as the third largest source of employment, generating \$24 billion in personal income annually for the region's residents; and

**WHEREAS**, today there are more than 2,500 vacant hospital positions for registered nurses alone, with this number projected to grow by an additional 13,500 by the year 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council and its members have issued a report *Caring for the Future: A Plan for Meeting Metropolitan Chicago's Growing Health Care Workforce Needs*, which sets forth a strategy to increase by 50% the number of registered nurses and other health professionals trained in Illinois; and

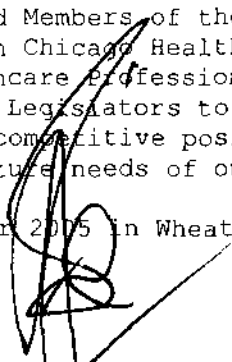
**WHEREAS**, DuPage County has sought locally to address the shortage of health care professionals by partnering with the College of DuPage to establish the Health Education Center by converting an unused portion of the DuPage Convalescent Center to classroom and clinical training space for the education of nursing students and other health careers; and

**WHEREAS**, DuPage County, through its Workforce Development Division, is also addressing this shortage by hiring a Healthcare Specialist to work with employers, healthcare professionals, occupational schools and job seekers; providing case management support for students enrolled in healthcare programs to increase their completion rates, and funding scholarships to train up to 115 workers in critical occupations.

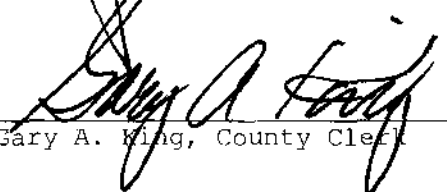
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Robert J. Schillerstrom, Chairman of the DuPage County Board and Members of the County Board support the efforts of the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council to address the region's shortage of Healthcare Professionals and encourage our Congressional Delegation and State Legislators to take action now in order for our region to retain its competitive position in the healthcare industry and to meet the future needs of our communities.

Enacted this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 2005 in Wheaton, Illinois



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert J. Schillerstrom, Chairman  
DuPage County Board

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary A. King, County Clerk