
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 344 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY HILL-EVANS, VENKAT, WAXMAN, HANBIDGE, CERRATO,
BOROWSKI, O'MARA, SCHLOSSBERG, HOWARD, VITALI, SAMUELSON,
ABNEY, KENYATTA, PROBST, KAZEEM, CIRESI, HOHENSTEIN AND
GIRAL, MARCH 18, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 18, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of March 2024 as "National Social Work
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, For decades, the social work profession has been
4 dedicated to improving human well-being and enhancing the basic
5 needs of all individuals, especially the most vulnerable; and

6 WHEREAS, The services provided by the social work profession
7 are needed more than ever as our nation addresses economic
8 inequality, systemic racism, the need for improved physical and
9 mental health care, COVID-19 and other significant societal and
10 health issues; and

11 WHEREAS, People become social workers because they have a
12 strong desire to help others and make our society a better place
13 to live for all; and

14 WHEREAS, According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, social
15 work is one of the fastest growing professions in the United
16 States; and

17 WHEREAS, Social workers have always been present in times of

1 crisis, helping individuals overcome issues such as death and
2 grief and helping individuals and communities recover from
3 natural disasters such as fires, hurricanes and earthquakes; and

4 WHEREAS, Social workers have helped the United States uphold
5 its values by successfully advocating for equal rights for all
6 individuals; and

7 WHEREAS, There are more than 720,000 professional social
8 workers in our nation, but that number is expected to rise to
9 more than 800,000 by 2030; and

10 WHEREAS, Social workers have helped drive significant,
11 positive changes in our nation; and

12 WHEREAS, Social workers, such as social reformer Jane Addams,
13 former Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins and civil rights
14 leaders Dorothy Height, Whitney M. Young, Jr., and Ida B. Wells,
15 have pushed for voting rights, equal rights, Social Security,
16 unemployment insurance and other programs; and

17 WHEREAS, Social workers work in all parts of our society to
18 empower individuals to live to their fullest potential; and

19 WHEREAS, School social workers have worked with families and
20 schools throughout the pandemic to ensure that students reach
21 their full academic and personal potential; and

22 WHEREAS, Social workers continue to work on the front lines
23 throughout the pandemic, helping clients receive the health care
24 they need and helping loved ones overcome grief and loss; and

25 WHEREAS, For generations, social workers have advocated for
26 positive changes that have made society a better place to live,
27 including urging policymakers to adopt the minimum wage, improve
28 workplace safety and enact social safety net programs that help
29 ameliorate hunger, homelessness and poverty; and

30 WHEREAS, Social workers are one of the largest groups of

1 mental health care providers in the United States, working daily
2 to help individuals, whether in person or remotely, overcome
3 substance use disorders and mental illnesses, such as depression
4 and anxiety; and

5 WHEREAS, Social workers remain prepared to aid our nation in
6 surmounting current and forthcoming challenges, which include
7 advocating for racial equity, enhancing health care and mental
8 health care for everyone and encouraging lawmakers to consider
9 comprehensive reforms; therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
11 month of March 2024 as "National Social Work Month" in
12 Pennsylvania and call upon all residents of this Commonwealth to
13 join the National Association of Social Workers in celebration
14 and support of the social work profession.