## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

No.

101

Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY BROWNLEE, ACOSTA, KIM, DIGIROLAMO, WHEELAND, BAKER, PASHINSKI, J. HARRIS, D. COSTA, STURLA, C. PARKER, MILLARD, LONGIETTI, HENNESSEY, KINSEY, READSHAW, SCHWEYER, MAJOR, THOMAS, VEREB, COHEN, BISHOP, KIRKLAND, SCHLOSSBERG, BOBACK, KOTIK, SONNEY, DUSH, V. BROWN, MARSICO, HICKERNELL, DONATUCCI, FREEMAN, McCARTER, CALTAGIRONE, FRANKEL, DEASY, GROVE, ROSS, MAHONEY, KORTZ, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, O'NEILL, ROEBUCK, MURT, WATSON, ROZZI AND QUINN, FEBRUARY 23, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, FEBRUARY 23, 2015

## A RESOLUTION

- Designating March 2015 as "Professional Social Work Month" in Pennsylvania.
- 3 WHEREAS, The primary mission of social workers is to help
- 4 people who need assistance with social issues; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Social workers have the education and experience to
- 6 quide individuals, families and communities through complex
- 7 issues and choices; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Social workers hold bachelor's, master's or doctoral
- 9 social work degrees and have attained a minimum number of hours
- 10 in supervised fieldwork to become licensed social workers; and
- 11 WHEREAS, More than 600,000 people in the United States hold
- 12 social work degrees; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Social workers connect individuals, families and
- 14 communities to available resources; and

- 1 WHEREAS, Social workers can be found in hospitals, police
- 2 departments, mental health clinics, child welfare agencies,
- 3 military facilities, adoption agencies, drug and alcohol
- 4 treatment facilities, schools and corporations; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Professional social workers are the nation's largest
- 6 provider of mental health services; and
- 7 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs
- 8 employs more than 8,000 social workers to assist veterans and
- 9 their families with individual and family counseling, client
- 10 education, end-of-life planning, substance abuse treatment,
- 11 crisis intervention and other services; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Social workers are dedicated to improving the
- 13 society in which we live; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Social workers are positive and compassionate
- 15 professionals; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Social workers endeavor to make sure everyone has
- 17 access to the same basic rights, protections and opportunities;
- 18 and
- 19 WHEREAS, Social workers help people help themselves, whenever
- 20 and wherever they need it most; and
- 21 WHEREAS, Social workers are often the driving force behind
- 22 important social movements in the United States and abroad; and
- 23 WHEREAS, According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the
- 24 need for social workers is expected to grow faster than the
- 25 average for all occupations through 2018, especially in
- 26 gerontology, home health care, substance abuse, private social
- 27 service agencies and school social work; and
- 28 WHEREAS, As the need for social work services increases,
- 29 there will not be enough social workers to meet the needs of
- 30 their clients; therefore be it

- 1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March 2015
- 2 as "Professional Social Work Month" in Pennsylvania and call
- 3 upon all residents to join with the National Association of
- 4 Social Workers, Pennsylvania Chapter, to celebrate and support
- 5 social workers and the social work profession.