

State of South Dakota

NINETY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2017

643Y0456

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

Introduced by: Senators Solano, Frerichs, Haverly, Heinert, Killer, Maher, Nesiba, Peters, Rusch, Soholt, Sutton, and Youngberg and Representatives Peterson (Kent), Bartling, Bordeaux, Dennert, Hawley, Hunhoff, Jensen (Kevin), Lesmeister, McCleerey, Mickelson, Rozum, Schoenfish, Soli, Tieszen, Willadsen, and Wismer

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Commending and recognizing the numerous contributions
2 made by South Dakota's social workers and recognizing March 2017 as Social Work Month.

3 WHEREAS, the primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance well-being and
4 help meet the basic needs of all people, especially the most vulnerable in society; and

5 WHEREAS, social workers embody this year's Social Work Month theme, "Social Workers
6 Stand Up!," by serving, advocating for, and empowering millions of Americans each day. Social
7 workers also embody the theme of this year's World Social Work Day on March 21, 2017,
8 which is "Promoting Community and Environmental Sustainability," by working with
9 individuals, organizations, and both local and federal government to improve communities and
10 protect the environment; and

11 WHEREAS, social work is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States, with
12 almost 650,000 members of the profession. Social workers are in all areas of our society to
13 improve happiness, health and prosperity, including in government, schools, universities, social



1 service agencies, communities, the military, and mental health and health care facilities; and

2 WHEREAS, social workers have pushed for decades to ensure equal rights for all, including

3 Native Americans, people with disabilities, ethnic, cultural, and religious groups; and

4 WHEREAS, social workers have advocated and continue to advocate for legislation and

5 policies that reduce racial discord, including renewal of the Voting Rights Act, the Violence

6 Against Women Act, the Civil Rights Act, Medicaid, unemployment insurance, workplace

7 safety, and social security benefits; and

8 WHEREAS, social workers are the largest group of mental health care providers in the

9 United States, and work daily to help people overcome substance use disorders and mental

10 illnesses such as depression and anxiety; and

11 WHEREAS, social workers deploy across the United States and the world, helping people

12 overcome earthquakes, floods, wars, and other disasters, and helping people return to peace and

13 prosperity:

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Ninety-Second Legislature

15 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the

16 Legislature of the State of South Dakota commends and recognizes the numerous contributions

17 made by South Dakota's social workers; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature designates March 2017 as National

19 Social Work Month and calls upon all South Dakotans to join with the National Association of

20 Social Workers, the South Dakota Chapter of Social Workers, and the State of South Dakota

21 in celebration and support of the social work profession.