

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

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

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

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

WHEREAS, social work is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States, with almost 650,000 members of the profession. Social workers are in all areas of our society to improve happiness, health and prosperity, including in government, schools, universities, social service agencies, communities, the military, and mental health and health care facilities; and

WHEREAS, social workers have pushed for decades to ensure equal rights for all, including Native Americans, people with disabilities, ethnic, cultural, and religious groups; and

WHEREAS, social workers have advocated and continue to advocate for legislation and policies that reduce racial discord, including renewal of the Voting Rights Act, the Violence Against Women Act, the Civil Rights Act, Medicaid, unemployment insurance, workplace safety, and social security benefits; and

WHEREAS, social workers are the largest group of mental health care providers in the United States, and work daily to help people overcome substance use disorders and mental illnesses such as depression and anxiety; and

WHEREAS, social workers deploy across the United States and the world, helping people overcome earthquakes, floods, wars, and other disasters, and helping people return to peace and prosperity:

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

the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the Legislature of the State of South Dakota commends and recognizes the numerous contributions made by South Dakota's social workers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature designates March 2017 as National Social Work Month and calls upon all South Dakotans to join with the National Association of Social Workers, the South Dakota Chapter of Social Workers, and the State of South Dakota in celebration and support of the social work profession.

Adopted by the Senate,  
Concurred in by the House of Representatives,

January 25, 2017  
January 31, 2017

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Matt Michels  
President of the Senate

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Kay Johnson  
Secretary of the Senate

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G. Mark Mickelson  
Speaker of the House

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Arlene Kvislen  
Chief Clerk of the House