

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 2013 as "Professional Social Work Month" in
2 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 guide 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 a licensed social worker; 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

15 WHEREAS, Social workers can be found in hospitals, police
16 departments, mental health clinics, child welfare agencies,
17 military facilities, adoption agencies, drug and alcohol

1 treatment facilities, schools and corporations; and

2 WHEREAS, Professional social workers are the nation's largest
3 provider of mental health services; and

4 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs
5 employs more than 8,000 social workers to assist veterans and
6 their families with individual and family counseling, client
7 education, end-of-life planning, substance abuse treatment,
8 crisis intervention and other services; and

9 WHEREAS, Social workers are dedicated to improving the
10 society in which we live; and

11 WHEREAS, Social workers are positive and compassionate
12 professionals; and

13 WHEREAS, Social workers endeavor to make sure everyone has
14 access to the same basic rights, protections and opportunities;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Social workers help people help themselves, whenever
17 and wherever they need it most; and

18 WHEREAS, Social workers are often the driving force behind
19 important social movements in the United States and abroad; and

20 WHEREAS, According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the
21 need for social workers is expected to grow faster than the
22 average for all occupations through 2018, especially in
23 gerontology, home health care, substance abuse, private social
24 service agencies and school social work; and

25 WHEREAS, As the need for social work services increases,
26 there will not be enough social workers to meet the needs of
27 their clients; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March
29 2013 as "Professional Social Work Month" in Pennsylvania and
30 call upon all citizens to join with the National Association of

- 1 Social Workers, Pennsylvania Chapter, to celebrate and support
- 2 social workers and the social work profession.