

2022 -- H 8018

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MARCH OF 2022 TO BE "SOCIAL WORK MONTH" IN THE STATE OF  
RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Kazarian, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Casimiro,  
Felix, Alzate, S Lima, Solomon, and Casey

Date Introduced: March 22, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, The Social Work profession for decades has been dedicated to improving  
2 human well-being and enhancing the basic needs of all people, especially the most vulnerable  
3 among us; and

4           WHEREAS, This year's Social Work Month theme is "The time is Right for Social  
5 Work" and embodies the heroic contributions of the social work profession to our nation,  
6 including the work social workers have done to heal our nation during these times of pandemic,  
7 racial unrest, economic uncertainty and political divisiveness; and

8           WHEREAS, Social workers have always been present in times of crisis, helping people  
9 overcome issues such as death and grief and helping people and communities recover from  
10 natural disasters such as fires, hurricanes and earthquakes; and

11           WHEREAS, Social workers have helped this nation live up to its values by successfully  
12 advocating for equal rights for all people, no matter their race, sexual identity, gender, gender  
13 expression, culture or religion; and

14           WHEREAS, The social work profession is one of the fastest growing professions in the  
15 United States, with nearly 800,000 people expected to be employed as Social Workers by 2028;  
16 and

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

19           WHEREAS, School social workers have worked with families and schools throughout

1 the pandemic to ensure students reach their full academic and personal potential; and

2 WHEREAS, Social workers play a crucial role in our nation's health care system and  
3 have played a key role in this nation's response to Covid-19 and helping individuals, families and  
4 communities cope with the epidemic; and

5 WHEREAS, Social workers for generations have advocated for positive changes that  
6 have made our society a better place to live, including urging policymakers to adopt the minimum  
7 wage, improve workplace safety and enact social safety net programs that help ameliorate hunger,  
8 homelessness, and poverty; and

9 WHEREAS, Social workers are one of the largest groups of national health care  
10 providers in the United States, and work daily, whether in person or remotely, to help people  
11 overcome substance use disorders and mental illnesses such as depression and anxiety; and

12 WHEREAS, Social workers will continue to stand ready to assist our nation in  
13 overcoming present and future challenges, including pushing for racial equity, ending gun  
14 violence, improving health care and mental health care for all and urging lawmakers to adopt  
15 immigration reforms; now, therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
17 proclaims March of 2022 to be "Social Work Month" in the State of Rhode Island; and be it  
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
20 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Rick Harris, Executive Director, National  
21 Association of Social Workers.

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