



SPONSOR: Rep. Chukwuocha & Sen. Pinkney & Rep. Bolden &
Rep. K. Johnson & Rep. Minor-Brown & Sen. Brown &
Sen. Paradee
Reps. Longhurst, Schwartzkopf

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11

RECOGNIZING MARCH 2023 AS SOCIAL WORK MONTH IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, social workers follow the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics, which
2 calls on members of the profession to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic needs of all people, with
3 particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty; and

4 WHEREAS, social workers have existed for over a century, providing a diverse skillset in dedication to creating
5 equality and equity to all communities; and

6 WHEREAS, social workers bolster the strength of human rights by tackling challenges, such as – inequality,
7 reproductive rights, racism, and natural disasters instated by climate change; and

8 WHEREAS, social work is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States, with more than 700,000
9 members of the profession; and

10 WHEREAS, social workers work in all areas of society to improve quality of life, health, and prosperity, including
11 in government, schools, universities, social service agencies, communities, the military, and mental health, health care and
12 correctional facilities; and

13 WHEREAS, social workers break barriers by assisting people enduring mental crises, families overcoming
14 cultural hurdles that withhold them from supporting their children who are LGBTQIA2S+, and allowing people with
15 circumstances preventing them from voting the ability to express their constitutional right; and

16 WHEREAS, social workers have aided in the creation of minimum wage, the 40-hour work week, and social
17 security benefits; and

18 WHEREAS, social workers were at the precipice of COVID-19, providing care for the elderly and at-risk
19 populations, aiding children that were unfocused in their learning environments, and helping thousands of families stay in
20 contact across America; and

21 WHEREAS, social workers are the largest group of mental health care providers in the United States and work
22 daily to help people overcome substance use disorders and mental illnesses such as depression and anxiety, substance
23 abuse, and other disorders so they can lead more fulfilling lives; and

24 WHEREAS, social workers help our nation's veterans recover from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD) and
25 other effects of their military service, and it is also members of this profession that are on the frontlines dealing with the
26 perpetrators, victims, and survivors of gun violence with services to address health care and mental health care, stress and
27 anxiety; and

28 WHEREAS, social workers embody this year's Social Work Month Theme "Break Barriers" by prioritizing the
29 crucial role of empowering oneself within a community, Americans each day; and

30 WHEREAS, social workers have helped this nation live up to its ideals by successfully pushing for decades to
31 ensure equal rights for all, including women, African Americans, Latinos, people who are disabled, people who are
32 LGBTQ+, and various ethnic, cultural and religious groups; and

33 WHEREAS, social workers have been behind and advocated for legislation and policies that reduce racial discord,
34 including renewal of the Voting Rights Act, the Violence Against Women Act, the Civil Rights Act, the Affordable Care
35 Act, Medicaid, unemployment insurance, workplace safety, and social security benefits; and

36 WHEREAS, thousands of child, family, and school social workers across the country provide assistance to protect
37 children and improve the social and psychological functioning of children and their families. Social workers help them find
38 loving homes and create new families through foster care and adoption; and

39 WHEREAS, social workers in academic settings work with families and schools to foster future generations by
40 ensuring students reach their full academic, social, and personal potential; and

41 WHEREAS, social workers work with older adults and their families to improve their quality of life and ability to
42 live independently as long as possible and get access to quality mental health and health care; and

43 WHEREAS, higher learning institutions are critical in preparing students with the skills they require before
44 entering the workforce; and

45 WHEREAS, Delaware State University offers the only Social Work program in the State of Delaware with a
46 Bachelors since 1982 and a Masters since 1986 in Social Work.

47 NOW, THEREFORE:

48 BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware General Assembly officially recognizes March 2023 as Social Work Month
49 and advocates for the establishment and expansion of Social Work programs. This legislative body honors social workers
50 throughout our state, county, and nation for the vast contributions they make each day and join in this celebration and
51 support of the social work profession.

SYNOPSIS

This Resolution recognizes the pertinent work of social workers throughout Delaware and the entire country, encourages the creation and expansion of Social Work programs, and recognizes March 2023 as Social Work Month in the State of Delaware.