## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 130 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY HILL-EVANS, LONGIETTI, MURT, BURNS, KORTZ, HARRIS, CALTAGIRONE, ISAACSON, YOUNGBLOOD, FREEMAN, DIGIROLAMO, BERNSTINE, MILLARD, DONATUCCI, WARREN, KINSEY, STURLA, GOODMAN, SCHLOSSBERG, McCLINTON, HEFFLEY, NEILSON, FRANKEL, KIRKLAND, MARKOSEK, MULLINS, ZABEL, TOOHIL, HOHENSTEIN, HOWARD, SONNEY, READSHAW, T. DAVIS, KENYATTA, JONES, FITZGERALD, SAINATO, DALEY, WHEATLEY AND MACKENZIE, MARCH 7, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 7, 2019

## A RESOLUTION

Recognizing the month of March 2019 as "National Social Work 1 Month" in Pennsylvania. 2 3 WHEREAS, The primary mission of social workers is to help individuals who need assistance with social problems and life 4 5 complications; and 6 WHEREAS, About 680,000 individuals in the United States, 7 including 40,000 in Pennsylvania, hold social work degrees; and 8 WHEREAS, Social workers connect individuals, families and communities to available resources; and 9 10 WHEREAS, March 2019 marks the 64th anniversary of the 11 National Association of Social Workers, founded in 1955; and 12 WHEREAS, Over the past six decades, the National Association of Social Workers and the social work profession have created 13 positive changes in society and for individuals; and 14

1 WHEREAS, Social workers also make a difference in the lives 2 of millions of Americans by helping to build, support and 3 empower positive family and community relationships; and 4 WHEREAS, Social workers endeavor to make sure that everyone 5 has access to the same basic rights, protections and 6 opportunities; and

7 WHEREAS, Social workers have worked to improve the rights of 8 women, African Americans and other ethnic minorities and the 9 LGBT community; and

10 WHEREAS, Social workers are often the driving force behind 11 important social movements in the United States and abroad; and 12 WHEREAS, Social workers have also pushed to strengthen the 13 social safety net through programs, including Medicaid, Medicare 14 and the Affordable Care Act; and

15 WHEREAS, Social workers have advocated for social justice 16 initiatives, including voting rights and mental health; and 17 WHEREAS, There are more than 40 schools of social work in 18 this Commonwealth, making Pennsylvania the second largest 19 educator of social workers nationwide; and

20 WHEREAS, More than 11,000 licensed social workers practice 21 throughout Pennsylvania; and

22 WHEREAS, All individuals, no matter the circumstance, may at 23 some point in their lives need the expertise of a skilled social 24 worker; and

25 WHEREAS, As the need for social work services increases, it 26 is imperative for more social workers to be recruited and 27 educated to ensure that the necessities of a growing client base 28 are met; and

29 WHEREAS, The theme for this year's "National Social Work 30 Month" is "Elevate Social Work"; and

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1 WHEREAS, This year's theme informs the public about the 2 contributions social workers have made to our society, the importance of social workers in the United States and how to 3 improve the compensation of social workers; therefore be it 4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the 5 month of March 2019 as "National Social Work Month" in 6 Pennsylvania and call upon all residents of this Commonwealth to 7 join with the National Association of Social Workers -8 9 Pennsylvania Chapter, to celebrate and support social workers 10 and the social work profession.