



**SOCIAL WORK MONTH 2017 PROCLAMATION  
"SOCIAL WORKERS STAND UP!"**

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;

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;

WHEREAS, Social Workers embody the theme of this year's World Social Work Day on March 21, 2017, "Promoting Community and Environmental Sustainability," by working with individuals, organizations and local and federal government to improve communities and protect the environment;

WHEREAS, Social Work is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States, with almost 650,000 members of the profession;

WHEREAS, Social Workers work 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;

WHEREAS, Social Workers have pushed for decades to ensure equal rights for all, including women, African Americans, Latinos, people who are disabled, people who are LGBTQ and various ethnic, cultural and religious groups;

WHEREAS, Social Workers have been behind and continue to advocate for legislation and policies that reduce racial discord, including renewal of the Voting Rights Act, The Violence Against Women's Act, The Civil Rights Act, the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid, unemployment insurance, workplace safety and Social Security benefits;

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;

WHEREAS, Social Workers deploy across the United States and the world, helping people overcome earthquakes, floods, wars, and other disasters and return to peace and prosperity;

NOW THEREFORE, in recognition of the numerous contributions made by America's Social Workers, I \_\_\_\_\_,  
proclaim the month of March 2017 as National Social Work Month and call upon all citizens to join with the National Association of Social Workers and \_\_\_\_\_ [your organization] in celebration and support of the Social Work Profession.