

Rep. Chang offered the following resolution:

**House Resolution No. 41.**

A resolution to declare March 2017 as Social Work Month in the state of Michigan.

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; and

Whereas, Social work is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States, with almost 650,000 members of the profession; and

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; and

Whereas, Social workers have been behind and continue to advocate for legislation and policies to improve well-being for all people, including renewal of the Voting Rights Act, the Violence Against Women's Act, the Civil Rights Act, the Affordable Care Act, the Voting Rights Act, Medicaid, unemployment insurance, workplace safety and Social Security benefits; and

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, substance abuse, and other disorders so they can lead more fulfilling lives; and

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; and

Whereas, Social workers have helped the United States and other nations overcome earthquakes, floods, wars, and other disasters by helping survivors get services such as food, shelter, health care, and mental health care to address stress and anxiety; and

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; and

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; and

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; and

Whereas, Thousands of child, family, and school social workers across the country provide assistance to protect children and improve the social and psychological functioning of children and their families. Social workers help them find loving homes and create new families through adoption; and

Whereas, Social workers in schools work with families and schools to foster future generations by ensuring students reach their full academic and personal potential; and

Whereas, Social workers work with older adults and their families to improve their quality of life and ability to live independently as long as possible and get access to quality mental health and health care; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare March 2017 as Social Work Month in the state of Michigan. We recognize the numerous contributions made by social workers across this state and country and join in this celebration and support of the social work profession.