

**House Resolution**

**No. 24**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Yamada**

February 23, 2012

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House Resolution No. 24—Relative to Social Work Month.

1 WHEREAS, March 2012 is recognized nationally as “Social  
2 Work Month” and this year’s theme is, “Social Work Matters”;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The social work profession has its roots in the 1889  
5 Chicago settlement house movement led by the “Mother of Social  
6 Work,” Jane Addams; and

7 WHEREAS, The primary mission of the social work profession  
8 is to enhance and meet the basic needs of all people, with particular  
9 attention to the needs and empowerment through social action and  
10 social justice for those who are poor, oppressed, and living in  
11 poverty; and

12 WHEREAS, Today, there are over 640,000 professional social  
13 workers in the United States, 48,000 of whom are in California;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, There are over 4,000 graduate students in the social  
16 work pipeline in 21 accredited California State University,  
17 University of California, and private programs throughout the  
18 state; and

19 WHEREAS, Professional social workers train in an intensive  
20 combination of classroom and community experiences focused on  
21 individuals, families, and communities in crisis and in need of  
22 help; and

23 WHEREAS, Professional social workers provide services across  
24 the age spectrum, from prenatal to end of life services; and

1 WHEREAS, Professional social workers serve in diverse  
2 settings, including schools, courtrooms, health clinics, hospitals,  
3 senior centers, homeless shelters, nursing homes, the military,  
4 disaster relief, prisons, corporations, and in political office; and

5 WHEREAS, Professional social workers who have served in  
6 Congress include the Honorable Ron Dellums, MSW, the  
7 Honorable Barbara Lee, MSW, and the Honorable Susan Davis,  
8 MSW. The Honorable Mary Salas, BSW, and the Honorable Patty  
9 Berg, B.A. in social work, have served in the California State  
10 Legislature; and

11 WHEREAS, Professional social workers who have combined  
12 their leadership skills and knowledge of community development  
13 into distinguished positions include Arturo Rodriguez, MSW,  
14 President of the United Farmworkers Organization, and James  
15 Mize, MSW, Sacramento Superior Court Judge; now, therefore,  
16 be it

17 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the  
18 Assembly proclaims March 2012 “Social Work Month” in the  
19 State of California, commends the California Chapter of the  
20 National Association of Social Workers for its role in advancing  
21 professional social work and promoting the well-being of the  
22 people of California, and urges all Californians to take part in  
23 March “Social Work Matters” events throughout California; and  
24 be it further

25 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
26 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.