

Proclamation

WHEREAS, for decades, the social work profession has been dedicated to enhancing the lives and well-being of all people, particularly the most vulnerable among us; and

WHEREAS, this year's Social Work Month theme – "The Time is Right for Social Work" – celebrates the countless social workers who have risen to meet the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, even as our nation continues to grapple with systemic racism, economic inequality, climate change, and other crises; and

WHEREAS, social work is one of the fastest growing professions in the United States, with more than 715,000 social workers today and nearly 800,000 professionals expected to be employed as social workers by 2028; and

WHEREAS, social workers are the largest group of mental health care providers in the United States, and work daily to help people – whether in person or remotely – overcome substance use disorders and mental illnesses such as depression and anxiety; and

WHEREAS, social workers have been and continue to stand ready to provide access to mental health treatment and health care services during times of crisis, including war and natural disasters such as floods, fires, earthquakes, hurricanes, and pandemics; and

WHEREAS, social workers have collaborated with other professions, community groups, lawmakers, civil rights and other organizations to advocate for and advance the rights of women and children, seniors, people of color, Native Americans, LGBTQ people, veterans, and many other cultural, ethnic, and religious groups; and

WHEREAS, social workers provide services in all areas of our society, including schools, centers for veterans, the military, hospitals and mental health centers, corporations, and in local, state, and federal government, meeting people no matter their circumstance and empowering them to live to their fullest potential;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the month of March as

Social Work Month

throughout the State of Maine, and I urge all citizens to recognize this observance.



In testimony whereof, I have caused
the Great Seal of the State to be
hereunto affixed GIVEN under my
hand at Augusta this seventeenth day
of March Two Thousand Twenty-Two

Shenna Bellows

Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State

A blue ink signature of Janet T. Mills, written in a cursive style.

Janet T. Mills
Governor