

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 215

Rep. Coffia offered the following resolution:

1           A resolution to declare March 2024 as Social Work Month in the  
2 state of Michigan.

3           Whereas, Social work is a profession dedicated to truly and  
4 genuinely helping people; and

5           Whereas, The primary mission of social work is to enhance  
6 human well-being and help meet the basic and complex needs of all  
7 people; and

8           Whereas, Social workers put a particular focus on helping  
9 people who are vulnerable, oppressed, or living in poverty; and

10          Whereas, Social workers follow a code of ethics that calls on  
11 them to fight injustice, and respect the dignity and worth of all  
12 people; and

1           Whereas, Social workers meet people where they are and help  
2 people and communities reach their full potential; and

3           Whereas, For more than a century, the social work profession  
4 has worked to improve this society, with social workers playing a  
5 role in establishing a minimum wage, Social Security, and Medicare,  
6 and working to ensure equal rights for all; and

7           Whereas, Social workers work in all facets of our society,  
8 including schools, hospitals, community organizations, the  
9 military, mental health centers, social service agencies,  
10 corporations, and local, state, and federal government; and

11           Whereas, Social workers are on the frontlines in helping this  
12 nation solve pressing social problems, including an increased  
13 demand for mental health services, an opioid addiction crisis, and  
14 economic inequality; and

15           Whereas, Social workers are in high demand, with some states  
16 reporting shortages in staffing and the U.S. Bureau of Labor  
17 Statistics predicting that social work will be one of the fastest  
18 growing professions in our nation during this decade; and

19           Whereas, A 2023 public opinion survey found that social work  
20 has a public approval rating of more than 80 percent and more than  
21 half of Americans say social workers deserve higher pay; and

22           Whereas, The 2024 Social Work Month theme, "Empowering Social  
23 Workers" embodies the need for our society to support social  
24 workers so they can continue to do the life-affirming work they do  
25 and help address societal needs; and

26           Whereas, Social workers in turn empower people, communities,  
27 and our nation, helping everyone achieve their full potential; and

28           Whereas, There are over 30,000 licensed social workers in the  
29 state of Michigan; now, therefore, be it

1           Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
2 this legislative body declare March 2024 as Social Work Month in  
3 the state of Michigan. In recognition of the numerous contributions  
4 made by Michigan's social workers, we call upon all citizens to  
5 join us in celebration and support of the social work profession  
6 and social workers across our state.