

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 320**

Introduced by Hunt, 8.

WHEREAS, for decades the profession of social work has been dedicated to improving human well-being and fulfilling the needs of all people especially the most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, "The Time is Right for Social Work" is the theme of this year's National Social Work Month and embodies how social workers rose to meet the most pressing challenge of all of our lifetimes, the COVID-19 pandemic, even as our nation continues to grapple with systemic racism, economic inequality, global warming, and other crises; 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 or anxiety; and

WHEREAS, social workers aid people in overcoming issues such as death and grief and support people and communities in recovering from increasing natural disasters such as fires, hurricanes, and earthquakes brought on by climate change; and

WHEREAS, social workers help the United States live up to its values by successfully advocating for equal rights for all, including black people, indigenous people, people of color, LBGTQA people, religious groups, and others; and

WHEREAS, the profession of social work is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States, with more than seven hundred fifteen thousand social workers today and nearly eight hundred thousand professionals expected to be employed as social workers by 2030; and

WHEREAS, social workers continue to champion changes that make our society

a better place to live, including advocating for a livable wage, improved workplace safety, and social safety net programs that help ameliorate poverty, hunger, and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, social workers possess the necessary expertise to assist the United States in some of its most pressing issues, such as public health and well-being, especially during the pandemic, equal rights, improved health care and mental health care for all, and immigration reform; and

WHEREAS, social workers serve in all facets of our society to meet the needs of people no matter their individual circumstances and empower them to live to their fullest potential.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature recognizes March 2022 as Social Work Month.
2. That the Legislature encourages all Nebraskans to join with the National Association of Social Workers and the Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers in celebration and support of the profession of social work.