

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, JULIA MEJIA, COLETTA, BREADON, DURKAN, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, AND WEBER



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH AS NATIONAL SOCIAL WORKER MONTH

WHEREAS, Social workers across the nation serve as advocates, champions, and leaders who dedicate their lives to the service of others, working tirelessly to improve individual and community well-being; *and*

WHEREAS, The month of March has been historically designated to acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of social workers, recognizing their impact on enhancing the fabric of society by advocating for positive changes and support systems; *and*

WHEREAS, Social workers play a critical role in a wide range of settings, including schools, hospitals, mental health clinics, senior centers, child welfare, and human service agencies, demonstrating versatility and dedication in their profession; *and*

WHEREAS, Social workers are often on the forefront of addressing critical societal issues, such as poverty, discrimination, abuse, addiction, physical illness, divorce, loss, unemployment, educational problems, disability, and mental illness; *and*

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly exacerbated mental health issues and employee workload at Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Police Department, and Boston Public Schools, especially in our SLIFE classrooms; *and*

WHEREAS, An increased demand for behavioral health care and social workers necessitates innovative solutions like passing Massachusetts S.160/H.4451, An Act Relative to Social Work Uplifting Practices and Exam Removal "The SUPER Act", which would reduce barriers to entry in the social work profession, including reevaluating licensure requirements and financial barriers, to ensure a robust and responsive workforce capable of addressing the complex needs of the community; *and*

WHEREAS, National Social Worker Month serves as an opportunity to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of social workers, to increase public understanding of their invaluable contributions, and to encourage people to consider careers in this vital field; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council recognize, celebrate, and support the contributions of social workers and go on record recognizing March as National Social Worker Month and commend the dedication, compassion, and tireless efforts of social workers.