

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** the Social Work Profession for decades has been dedicated to improving human well-being and enhancing the basic needs of all people—especially the most vulnerable among us particularly during the global pandemic; and
- Whereas,** this year’s Social Work Month theme, “The Time is Right for Social Work” embodies how social workers rose to meet the most pressing challenges 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 and anxiety; and
- Whereas,** Social Workers have always helped people overcome issues such as death and grief and helped people and communities recover from increasing natural disasters such as fires, hurricanes and earthquakes brought on by climate change; and
- Whereas,** Social Workers have helped this nation live up to its values by successfully advocating for equal rights for all, including Black, Indigenous, People of Color, those who are LGBTQA, religious groups and others; and
- Whereas,** the Social Work Profession is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States, with more than 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 have continued to push for changes that have made our society a better place to live, including 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 our nation in some of its most demanding concerns, including their health and well-being not only during the pandemic, but at all times, ensuring equal rights, improved health care and mental health care for all; and
- Whereas,** Social Workers work in all facets of our society to meet people no matter their circumstance and empower them to live to their fullest potential.

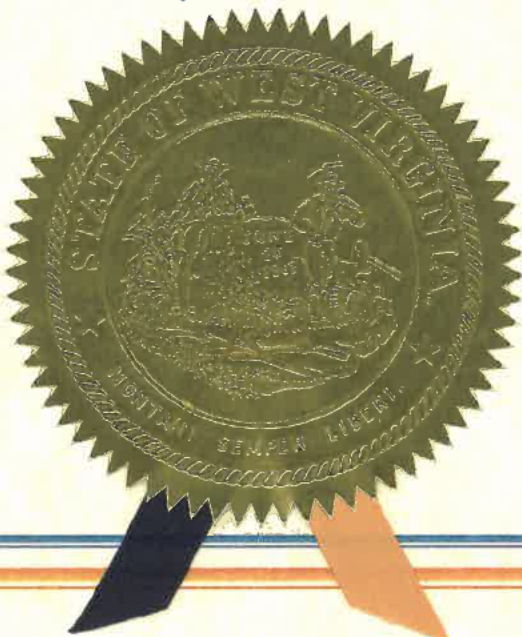
**Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved** that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *March 2022* as:


### *National Social Work Month*

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.


**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the First day of March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Ninth Year of the State



  
Jim Justice  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

  
Mac Warner  
Secretary of State