

By: Senator(s) Hill, Barnett, Butler (38th), Frazier, Jackson To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 563

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MARCH 5-11, 2023, AS
2 "NATIONAL SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK WEEK IN MISSISSIPPI" AND EXPRESSING
3 THE IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK PROGRAMS.

4 WHEREAS, school social work is a specialized area of practice
5 within the broad field of the social work profession. School
6 social workers bring unique knowledge and skills to the school
7 system and the student services team. School Social Workers are
8 trained mental health professionals who can assist with mental
9 health concerns, behavioral concerns, positive behavioral support,
10 academic, and classroom support, consultation with teachers,
11 parents, and administrators as well as provide individual and
12 group counseling/therapy. School social workers are hired by
13 school districts to enhance the district's ability to meet its
14 academic mission, especially where home, school and community
15 collaboration is the key to achieving student success.

16 WHEREAS, School Social Work Services include the following:

17 **SERVICES TO STUDENTS:**

- 18 • Providing crisis intervention



19 • Developing intervention strategies to increase academic
20 success

21 • Assisting with conflict resolution and anger management

22 • Helping the child develop appropriate social interaction
23 skills

24 **SERVICES TO PARENT/FAMILIES:**

25 • Working with parents to facilitate their support in their
26 children's school adjustment

27 • Alleviating family stress to enable the child to function
28 more effectively in school and community

29 • Assisting parents to access programs available to students
30 with special needs

31 • Assisting parents in accessing and utilizing school and
32 community resources

33 **SERVICES TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL:**

34 • Providing staff with essential information to better
35 understand factors (cultural, societal, economic, familial,
36 health, etc.) affecting a student's performance and behavior

37 • Assisting students with mental health concerns

38 • Developing staff in-service training programs

39 • Assisting teachers with behavior management

40 • Providing direct support to staff

41 **SCHOOL-COMMUNITY LIAISON:**

42 • Obtaining and coordinating community resources to meet
43 students' needs



44 • Helping school districts receive adequate support from
45 social and mental health agencies

46 • Advocating for new and improved community/school services
47 to meet the needs of students and families

48 • Helping the system respond effectively to each child's
49 needs

50 **SERVICES TO DISTRICTS:**

51 • Assist in developing and implementing educational programs
52 for exceptional children

53 • Developing alternative programs for students with
54 attendance concerns or involvement with the law

55 • Identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect

56 • Providing consultation regarding school law and school
57 policy, including IDEA and Section 504

58 • Providing case management for students and families
59 requiring multiple resources

60 **RELATED SERVICES:**

61 • Participating in special education assessment meetings as
62 well as Individual Educational Planning meetings

63 • Working with those problems in a child's living situation
64 that affect the child's adjustment in school (home, school, and
65 community)

66 • Preparing a social or developmental history on a child
67 with a disability

68 • Counseling (group, individual and/or family)



69 • Mobilizing family, school, and community resources to
70 enable the child to learn as effectively as possible in his or her
71 educational program

72 • Assisting in developing positive behavioral intervention
73 strategies;

74 WHEREAS, the importance of school social work, through the
75 inclusion of school social work programs and services, has been
76 recognized in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
77 (20 USC 6301 et seq.) and the Individuals with Disabilities
78 Education Act (20 USC 1400 et seq.); and

79 WHEREAS, the celebration of "School Social Work Week" during
80 the week beginning March 5, 2023, highlights the vital role school
81 social workers play in the lives of students in the State of
82 Mississippi:

83 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
84 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
85 we do hereby designate March 5-11, 2023, as "National School
86 Social Work Week in Mississippi" and express the importance of
87 school social work programs in order to recognize the
88 contributions of school social workers to the successes of
89 students in schools across Mississippi.

90 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education and
91 school districts across the state are hereby encouraged to observe
92 "National School Social Work Week" with appropriate ceremonies and
93 activities that promote awareness of the vital role of school



94 social workers, in schools and the community as a whole, in
95 helping students prepare for their futures as productive citizens.

96 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be made
97 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

