

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE ADVANCED JOURNAL AND CALENDAR**

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

SUPPLEMENT NO. 4

**PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE**

**Joint Resolutions**

(1-1) The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 1494

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING ACCESS TO JUSTICE DAY**

WHEREAS, 2022 marks the 27th anniversary of Maine's Justice Action Group, a judge-led coalition of leaders from Maine's legal community who are passionate about helping all Maine people have access to civil justice; and

WHEREAS, the coalition members include representatives of the state and federal judiciary, the Legislature, nonprofit civil legal aid providers, the University of Maine School of Law, the Maine Justice Foundation, the Maine State Bar Association, the Maine Trial Lawyers Association, private practice attorneys and others; and

WHEREAS, key initiator Judge Frank Coffin described the Justice Action Group as a catalyst, something introduced in small quantities that produces great change, and the Justice Action Group has been an advocate for equal access to justice since its beginnings; and

WHEREAS, equal access to justice is a bedrock principle of a free, constitutional society, but no system of laws and constitutional protections can be effective if only those who can afford private advocates have access to justice; and

WHEREAS, because justice for all is achievable only through the vigilance and action of the legislative, judicial and executive branches of government, it is important to provide for access to justice in all branches of State Government; and

WHEREAS, providing equal access to justice has tangible, widespread benefits for Maine's families, children, schools, communities, businesses, charities and government; and

WHEREAS, legal issues profoundly affect basic human needs such as safety from violence and exploitation, security and stability for children and the families in which they are nurtured, health, shelter and food security; and

WHEREAS, the need for increased support for civil legal aid and pro bono representation for low-income and vulnerable Maine people remains acute; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to declare March 1, 2022 as Access to Justice Day to acknowledge and express our appreciation and strong support for Maine's civil legal aid providers and private practice attorneys who provide pro bono services for those otherwise unable to afford legal representation; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a suitable copy of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Justice Action Group.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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(1-2) The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 1495

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2022 AS  
SOCIAL WORK MONTH**

WHEREAS, social workers have paved the way for change by enhancing the well-being of all people, especially the most vulnerable in society; and

WHEREAS, social workers have helped lead the nation's struggle for social justice and continue to advocate for positive social change and, more than the members of any other profession, social workers recognize that more must be done to address the persistent social problems that plague the State; and

WHEREAS, social workers support diverse families in every community and understand that individuals and communities together can bring about change; and

WHEREAS, social workers advocate for the rights of the disadvantaged and oppressed; and

WHEREAS, social workers advocate for children's rights to a safe environment and a good education; and

WHEREAS, social workers advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer rights; and

WHEREAS, social workers advocate for the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income with respect to development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, rules and policies; and

WHEREAS, social workers work to ensure good care is provided to older adults; and

WHEREAS, social workers help provide community support for veterans and their families after their service; and

WHEREAS, social workers strive to improve access to mental health treatment and health care services in order to save lives; and

WHEREAS, social workers effect change and put the ideals of citizenship into action every day through legislative, regulatory and social policy efforts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize March 2022 as Social Work Month; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the University of Maine, Orono, School of Social Work; the University of Maine, Presque Isle, College of Professional Programs and Education, Social Work; the University of Southern Maine, School of Social Work; the University of New England, School of Social Work; and Saint Joseph's College, Social Work program.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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