

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Be Adopted as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Frederick, Greenlick, Harker, Parrish, Thompson, Weidner, Gilliam, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Jennifer Kellar, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/23, 3/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges Congress to pass Social Work Reinvestment Act (SWRA).

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Inverted ratio of student loan debt to earning capacity
- High turnover rates in social work positions due to salary and family well-being concerns
- Shortage of well-trained social workers
- Average of male student body is less than 20 percent
- Importance of diverse community in social work workforce
- Social work safety and training
- SWRA will help ensure stability in workforce through recruitment, retention, research and reinvestment of state and federal funds

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes references to outdated congressional bill numbers.

BACKGROUND: House Joint Memorial 13A, the Social Work Reinvestment Act will establish a Social Work Reinvestment Commission to advise Congress and the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services on policy issues associated with social work. The commission would review the current social work workforce challenges and their effects on communities; develop strategies to maximize social workers' capacity to serve their clients with expertise; and provide grants to states to support research in education, training and community-based programs of excellence.