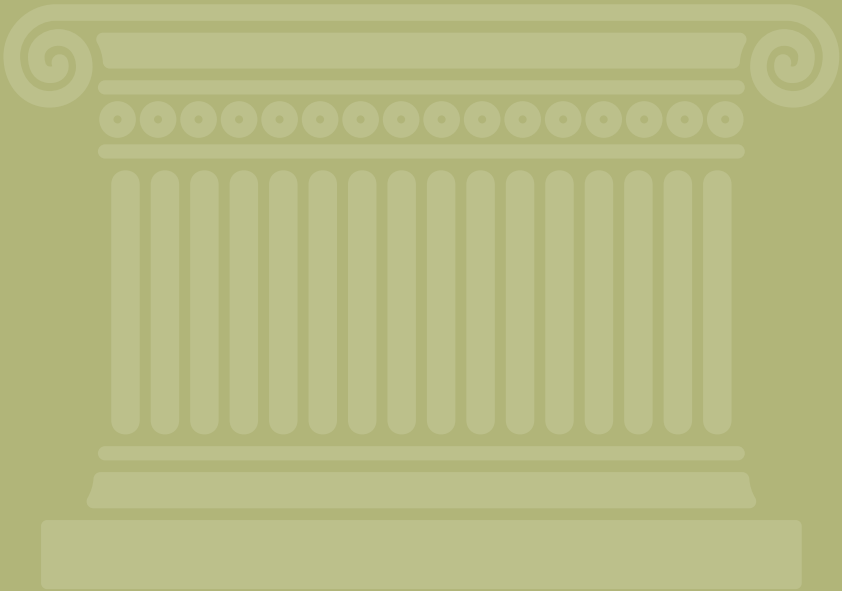


(110TH CONGRESS)

# SOCIAL WORKERS IN **CONGRESS**



 **N A S W**  
National Association of Social Workers



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# INTRODUCTION

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is the largest membership organization of professional social workers in the world, with nearly 150,000 members. Our members are practitioners who work in health, mental health, children and family, and aging services, as well as educators, researchers and policymakers.

NASW works to enhance the professional growth and development of social workers; to create and maintain standards for the social work profession; and to advance sound social policies that support the well-being of individuals, families and communities.

Social workers possess a continuum of knowledge about human needs and behavior, services delivery, systems that affect individuals and groups, and the effects of public policy.<sup>1</sup> NASW is proud that social work interests are being represented in the halls.

<sup>1</sup>National Association of Social Workers, Policy Statements 2006-2009, *Social Work Speaks*, 7th Edition, 2006.

## U.S. SENATOR BARBARA MIKULSKI (MD)



First elected to the U.S. Senate in 1975, Senator Barbara Mikulski is the Dean of the Women—serving as a mentor to other women Senators when they first take office.

Determined to make a difference in her community, Mikulski became a social worker in Baltimore, helping at-risk children and educating seniors about the Medicare program.

Senator Mikulski's experiences as a social worker provided valuable lessons that she draws on as a United States Senator.

In the Senate, Senator Mikulski fights to make sure Americans have access to quality education, life saving research and improving the lives of Veterans. Senator Mikulski serves on the Appropriations Committee where she is the Chair of the Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee, the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions and Intelligence Committees.

Senator Mikulski has been the lead sponsor of many social work pieces of legislation including the Clinical Social Work Medicare Equity Act. Senator Mikulski received her MSW from the University of Maryland.

## U.S. SENATOR DEBBIE STABENOW (MI)



Senator Debbie Stabenow made history in 2000 when she became the first woman from the State of Michigan elected to the United States Senate. Senator Stabenow is a member of the powerful Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Budget and Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry committees and chairs the Agriculture Subcommittee on Rural Revitalization, Conservation, Forestry, and Credit.

In Congress, Senator Stabenow is a passionate advocate for children and an expert in family law and small business issues. She is leading the fight on jobs and manufacturing issues, and is becoming the Senate's "go to" person on the issue of health care and prescription drugs.

Senator Stabenow received her Bachelor's degree and her MSW from Michigan State University.

# U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN SUSAN A. DAVIS (CA-53)



Congresswoman Susan A. Davis represents California's 53rd Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Congresswoman Davis' in public affairs grew out of her experiences as a social worker, parent, youth mentor, and military spouse.

In Congress, Congresswoman has earned a reputation as a bipartisan consensus builder. She is proud to serve on the House Armed Services Committee, the Education and Labor Committee, and the House Administration Committee. She is focusing on the issues of defense, education, election reform, the environment, health care, and veterans affairs, which is especially significant because of the large veterans population in San Diego and because her father served as a medic in World War II.

Born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Susan grew up in Richmond, California. She graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a degree in sociology. She then earned a master's degree in social work from the University of North Carolina.

## U.S. CONGRESSMAN LUIS V. GUTIERREZ (IL-4)



During his seven terms in the U.S. House, Congressman Luis V. Gutierrez has worked to establish himself as an effective legislator and energetic spokesman on behalf of his constituents in Illinois' Fourth District. At the same time, Gutierrez' tireless leadership championing the causes of the Latino and immigrant communities

has led to greater responsibilities within the U.S. Congress and has earned him widespread acclaim throughout the country—culminating in his selection as the most admired Latino leader in the country, according to a recent nationwide survey.

Congressman Gutierrez serves on the House Financial Services Committee as well as the Judiciary Committee. In addition, some of the congressional caucuses in which Congressman Gutierrez is a member include the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the Congressional Child Care Caucus, the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and the Congressional Task Force on International HIV/AIDS.

Before his election a member of congress, Congressman Gutierrez graduated from Northeastern Illinois University in 1975 and worked as a teacher, social worker, community activist, city official and Alderman.

# U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA LEE (CA-9)



Congresswoman Barbara Lee was first elected to represent California's ninth Congressional District in 1998, in a special election to fill the seat of retiring Congressman Ron Dellums.

Congresswoman Lee is committed to eradicating poverty, fostering opportunity and protecting the most vulnerable in our society. Congresswoman Lee is a member of the House Appropriations Committee and serves on the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Subcommittee, the Foreign Operations Subcommittee and the Legislative Branch Subcommittee. Furthermore, Congresswoman Lee is the Co-Chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, First Vice-Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and a Senior Democratic Whip.

Born in El Paso Texas, Congresswoman Lee graduated from Mills College in Oakland and received her MSW from the University of California in Berkeley. She began her political career as an intern in the office of her predecessor, then-Congressman Ron Dellums, current Mayor of Oakland and SW Pioneer, where she eventually became his Chief of Staff. Before being elected to Congress, she served in the California State Assembly from 1990-1996 and in the California State Senate from 1996-1998.

# U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES (OH-11)



Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones is the first African-American woman elected to the United States House of Representatives from Ohio and represents Cleveland, OH.

Currently in her fifth term in office, the Congresswoman, a strong advocate for many issues, has championed wealth building and economic development, access and delivery of health care, and quality education for all. The Congresswoman chairs the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (Ethics). Additionally, she serves on the powerful Ways and Means Committee and is an active member of numerous Congressional Caucuses, including the Congressional Black Caucus.

Congresswoman Tubbs Jones has introduced several pieces of legislation that impact the social work profession and the people social workers serve. For example, Congresswoman Tubbs Jones has introduced legislation to promote loan forgiveness for social workers in child welfare, provide healthcare for low and middle-income families and community reentry for ex-felons.

Congresswoman Tubbs Jones has made a number of historic achievements in her distinguished career as a public servant. Prior to her election to the House, Congresswoman Tubbs Jones served as the first African-American and the first female Cuyahoga County, Ohio Prosecutor. She was the first African-American woman to sit on the Common Pleas bench in the State of Ohio and was a Municipal Court Judge in the City of Cleveland.

Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones is a graduate of Cleveland Public Schools. She received her undergraduate degree from Case Western Reserve University, graduating with a degree in Social Work from the Flora Mather College in 1971. She received her Juris Doctorate from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in 1974.

## U.S. CONGRESSMAN CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ (TX-23)



Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez was recently elected to represent the 23rd Congressional District of Texas. As a result of redistricting, Congressman Rodriguez lost his seat in 2004. After the U.S. Supreme Court declared the redistricting unconstitutional, he mounted a campaign in a new district and was successful, returning to Congress in 2006 to represent the 23rd District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Congressman Rodriguez draws on his experience as a social worker and educator to sponsor legislation fighting unemployment along the border, providing access and opportunity to small businesses, investing in programs for high-skill job training, and improving the health of minority communities.

A former Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Congressman Rodriguez serves on the powerful House Committee on Appropriations where he sits on the Homeland Security and Transportation, Housing & Urban Development & Related Agencies Subcommittees. He also serves on the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs in the Subcommittees on Disability Assistance & Memorial Affairs and Oversight & Investigations. Congressman Rodriguez's leadership is further exemplified in his involvement with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) where he serves as the Chair of the Taskforce on Veterans Affairs.

Congressman Rodriguez received his B.A. at St. Mary's University, and earned his MSW from Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio.

## U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ (PA-13)



U.S. Representative Allyson Y. Schwartz is serving in her second term representing the 13th District of Pennsylvania. During Representative Schwartz's more than three decades of public service, she has built a national reputation as an innovative leader. Schwartz led the effort to create the Pennsylvania State Children's Health Insurance Program, which later served as a national model for a state/federal/family partnership to increase the number of children with health insurance.

Congresswoman Schwartz serves on two influential House committees, the Budget Committee and the Ways and Means Committee.

With a B.A. from Simmons College in Sociology and a Masters of Social Work from Bryn Mawr College, Congresswoman Schwartz is dedicated to working on issues on behalf of Veterans, women and families.

## U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN CAROL SHEA-PORTER (NH-1)

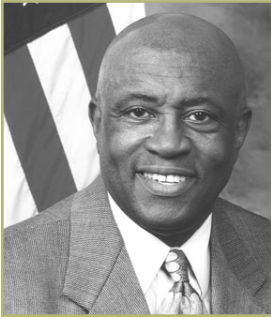


Congresswoman Shea-Porter is the first woman elected to national office in the history of the state of New Hampshire. Congresswoman Shea-Porter decided to run for congress after serving for over a month as a volunteer in Katrina ravaged New Orleans. She saw first hand the inadequate response of the federal government to meet the needs of citizens after this tragedy.

Congresswoman Shea-Porter is a member of the House Armed Services Committee and the Committee on Education and Labor and introduced the Social Work Month resolution in March 2007.

Congresswoman Shea-Porter is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Social Services and later a Master of Arts in Public Administration.

## U.S. CONGRESSMAN EDOLPHUS "ED" TOWNS (NY-10)



Edolphus "Ed" Towns is currently serving his thirteenth term in the U.S House of Representatives. He represents the tenth Congressional District of Brooklyn, New York.

Representative Towns is a member of the exclusive Energy and Commerce Committee where he is on the Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection Subcommittee, the Health Subcommittee, and the Telecommunications and the Internet Subcommittee. Through his committee appointments, Rep. Towns has worked to enhance consumers' privacy protections on the Internet, develop innovative initiatives to reduce asthma, and bridge the digital divide. He also serves on the Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

Throughout his tenure in Congress, Representative Towns has introduced legislation in education, telecommunications, healthcare, financial services and the environment. Of particular interest to NASW, Rep. Towns has introduced legislation seeking the formation of a comprehensive immigration reform commission, the establishment of an office of men's health, and legislation to authorize the use of clinical social workers to conduct evaluations to determine work-related emotional and mental illnesses.

Congressman Towns has a Master's Degree in Social Work from Adelphi University and a Bachelor's Degree from North Carolina A & T State University.

# REINVESTING IN SOCIAL WORK INVESTS IN A HEALTHY SOCIETY

## RECRUIT ↔ RETAIN ↔ RESEARCH

The United States is experiencing unprecedented levels of human, social service and health care needs. These needs now transcend social and economic strata, affect the old and the young, and place tremendous burdens on those in the middle.

Professional social workers work with individuals, families and communities to ensure full participation by all members of society and to address a range of social problems that limit our nation's health and potential.

Current social work shortages, impending retirements, lack of incentives to attract social workers and the need to know what prevention and intervention strategies work best creates a crisis requiring the Social Work Reinvestment Initiative (SWRI). The SWRI's goal is:

To secure federal and state investments to recruit, retain and train social workers and support research to enhance evidence-based services.

For more information, go to: [www.socialworkreinvestment.org](http://www.socialworkreinvestment.org)  
or [www.socialworkers.org](http://www.socialworkers.org).





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750 First Street NE, Suite 700 | Washington, DC 20002-4241