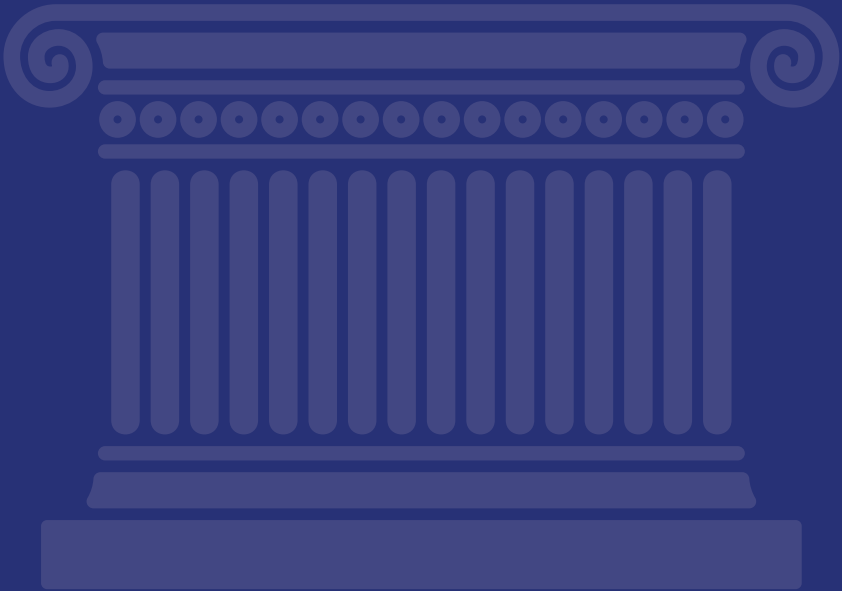


(112TH CONGRESS)

SOCIAL WORKERS IN **CONGRESS**



The 112th Congress version of Social Workers in Congress is dedicated to those affected by the shooting in Tucson, Arizona on January 11, 2011 including Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, who is a good friend to the social work profession. NASW and the social work community honors the memory of social worker Gabe Zimmerman, who served as Congresswoman Giffords' Director of Constituent Services and was a determined advocate and caring public servant. Mr. Zimmerman, along with five other individuals died during this tragic shooting.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Representative Edolphus “Ed” Towns (D-NY)	2
Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)	3
Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)	4
Representative Susan A. Davis (D-CA).....	5
Representative Luis V. Gutierrez (D-IL)	6
Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA)	7
Representative Allyson Y. Schwartz (D-PA)	8



INTRODUCTION

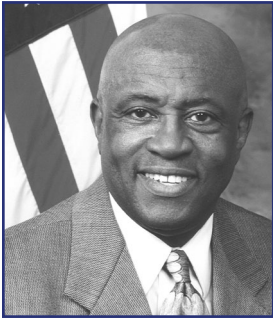
The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is the largest membership organization of professional social workers in the world, with 56 Chapters in every state, and Washington DC, Guam, International, New York City, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Our members are practitioners who work in health, 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.¹ NASW is proud that the social work perspective is being represented in the halls of Congress.

¹National Association of Social Workers, Policy Statements 2009-2012, *Social Work Speaks*, 8th Edition, 2009.

U.S. CONGRESSMAN EDOLPHUS “ED” TOWNS (NY-10)



Edolphus “Ed” Towns is a fourteen term veteran in the U.S House of Representatives. He represents the tenth Congressional District of Brooklyn, New York.

Representative Towns is a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, where he is a ranking member of the Government Organization, Efficiency and Financial Management Subcommittee, and a member of the exclusive Energy and Commerce Committee where he sits on the Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade Subcommittee, the Health Subcommittee, and the Communications and Technology 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.

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 is the lead sponsor of the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act and has been an outspoken advocate for social workers and the individuals, families, and communities we serve.

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.

U.S. SENATOR BARBARA MIKULSKI (MD)



First elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1976, Barbara Mikulski successfully ran for Senate in 1986, becoming the first democratic woman Senator elected in her own right. 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, and 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 and the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act. Senator Mikulski was also the lead sponsor of the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act which was the first piece of legislation that President Obama signed into law in the 111th Congress. 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 Committee, and the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry committee, and chairs the Agriculture Subcommittee on Rural Revitalization, Conservation, Forestry, and Credit, and the Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee.

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 was a cosponsor of the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act in the 111th Congress.

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

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

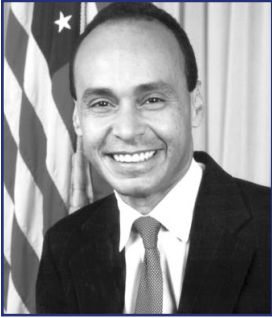


Congresswoman Susan A. Davis represents California's 53rd Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Congresswoman Davis' interest in public affairs grew out of her experiences as a social worker, parent, youth mentor, and military spouse.

In Congress, the Congresswoman has earned a reputation as a bipartisan consensus builder. She is proud to serve on the House Armed Services Committee, the Education and Workforce 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. Congresswoman Davis was a cosponsor of the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act in the 111th Congress.

Born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Congresswoman Davis 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 nine 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 nationwide survey.

Congressman Gutierrez serves on the House Financial Services Committee. Congressman Gutierrez is also the Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity. In addition, some of the congressional caucuses in which Congressman Gutierrez is a member include the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and the Congressional Task Force on International HIV/AIDS. Congressman Gutierrez was a cosponsor of the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act in the 111th Congress.

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, and the Financial Services Subcommittee. Furthermore, Congresswoman Lee is a member of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and the Congressional Progressive Caucus. Congresswoman Lee was an original cosponsor of the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act in the 111th Congress.

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 a NASW Social Work 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 ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ (PA-13)



U.S. Representative Allyson Y. Schwartz is serving in her third 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 the influential Budget Committee. Prior to her service in Congress, Representative Schwartz was a leading healthcare executive in Philadelphia and from 1990 to 2004 served as a member of the Pennsylvania State Senate, where she was considered one of the most accomplished legislators for her ability to forge bipartisan partnerships. Congresswoman Schwartz was a cosponsor of the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act in the 111th Congress.

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

Schwartz is also instrumental in legislative efforts redirecting the nation's environmental and energy policies towards energy independence and the reduction of global warming.

REINVESTING IN SOCIAL WORK INVESTS IN A HEALTHY SOCIETY

RECRUIT ↔ RETAIN ↔ RESEARCH REINVESTMENT

Professional social workers provide essential services to individuals across the lifespan and have long been the workforce to guide people to critical resources, counsel them on important life decisions, and help them reach their full potential. Social workers are society's safety net, and with our current economic challenges, this safety net has grown to include and protect a diverse group of people from all walks of life.

However, serious safety concerns, significant educational debt, and comparatively insufficient salaries are threatening the ability of our nation's social workers to provide these indispensable services.

The Social Work Reinvestment Initiative including the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act, is designed to address these challenges to the profession, thereby helping to ensure that millions of individuals and families throughout the nation can continue to receive competent care. This initiative will create the foundation for a professional workforce to meet the ever-increasing demand for the essential services that social workers provide. Professional social workers have the unique expertise and experience that will enable them to help solve the social and economic challenges that our nation is facing.

For more information, go to
SocialWorkReinvestment.org or
SocialWorkers.org.





National Association of Social Workers

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