



**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

Resolution

WHEREAS, Virginia's landmark welfare reform legislation has significantly impacted the services provided by local benefit program specialists, calling upon them to creatively promote individual self-sufficiency and personal responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Virginia continues to experience unprecedented implementation of complex policies and procedures in all major benefits programs; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's 2,415 benefit programs specialists have been at the forefront of public efforts to meet that need, steadily maintaining a high rate of application processing to ensure that those qualified for social services receive them; and

WHEREAS, 121,909 TANF recipients and \$4.7 million in diversionary payments to prevent long term dependence on public assistance, 876,522 SNAP recipients, 862,497 Medicaid recipients, 2,087 refugees, 2,517 General Relief recipients, 5,105 Auxiliary Grant recipients, and 237,221 energy assistance households, are served monthly through the Benefits Program Division, and depending on the dedication and commitment of benefit programs specialists who handle their cases in an accurate and timely manner; and

WHEREAS, benefit programs specialists are continually faced with reconciling an environment of rapidly changing policies, procedures, and technological advances with quality control requirements, and

WHEREAS, the present economic climate in the United States and Virginia has significantly impacted the services provided by local benefit programs specialists, calling upon them to creatively promote individual self-sufficiency and personal responsibility; while simultaneously providing case management to increasing numbers of citizens.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 19th day of October 2011, the State Board of Social Services does hereby commend all benefit programs specialists across the Commonwealth of Virginia for a job well done and recognizes the month of February, 2012 as Benefit Programs Specialists Appreciation Month, calling upon Virginians to join in acknowledging their public service and contributions.

Robert C. Spadareni Sr.
Vice-Chairman