

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 6, 2008

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 15, 2008

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 112

Introduced by Assembly Member Dymally
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Soto)
(Principal coauthor: Senator Negrete McLeod)

March 3, 2008

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 112—Relative to a Legislative Task Force on Fibromyalgia.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 112, as amended, Dymally. Legislative Task Force on Fibromyalgia.

This measure would establish a Legislative Task Force on Fibromyalgia, consisting of specified members, to establish a public information and outreach campaign, promote fibromyalgia education and training programs for physicians and other health professionals, collaborate with a broad group of stakeholders, review current state policies and practices concerning treatment of fibromyalgia, develop a State Fibromyalgia Strategic Plan to be submitted to the Legislature by September 1, 2009, and hold a Fibromyalgia Summit during the 2009–10 Regular Session of the Legislature.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is a significant health problem that
- 2 affects an estimated 6 to 8 percent of Americans and countless
- 3 thousands of Californians; and

1 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is a debilitating disease that fully
2 disables thousands of Californians with symptoms that are chronic
3 and include pain, extreme fatigue, sleep disorders, migraine
4 headaches, and impairment of memory and concentration; and

5 WHEREAS, Many fibromyalgia patients suffer for an average
6 of five years before obtaining a correct diagnosis, which results
7 in a worsened condition that is more debilitating and more difficult
8 and expensive to treat; and

9 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is costly to California in both
10 economic and social terms. With respect to the economic cost, an
11 estimated \$1 billion in medical expenses, lost wages, and other
12 associated economic costs can be attributed to fibromyalgia. With
13 respect to the social cost, fibromyalgia impacts many families and
14 children, as demonstrated by the fact that 80 percent of
15 fibromyalgia patients are women; and

16 WHEREAS, Evidence indicates that the incidence of
17 fibromyalgia may be increasing at a rapid rate; and

18 WHEREAS, A legislative task force on fibromyalgia is
19 necessary to do all of the following:

20 (a) Promote public awareness of fibromyalgia, which is a
21 widespread, but poorly understood, disease.

22 (b) Promote understanding of the importance of early diagnosis
23 and proper treatment and management of fibromyalgia.

24 (c) Promote the delivery of appropriate information, programs,
25 and services regarding fibromyalgia.

26 (d) Encourage research into the nature, cause, and treatment of
27 fibromyalgia; now, therefore, be it

28 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
29 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislative Task Force on
30 Fibromyalgia is hereby established, which shall consist of ~~15~~ 14
31 members, as follows:

32 (a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint to the task force
33 one Member of the Assembly from the majority caucus and one
34 Member of the Assembly from the minority caucus.

35 (b) The Senate Committee on Rules shall appoint to the task
36 force one Member of the Senate from the majority caucus and one
37 Member of the Senate from the minority caucus.

38 ~~(c) The National Fibromyalgia Association shall appoint 11~~
39 ~~members to the task force, including some members who have~~

1 (c) *The Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate Committee on*
2 *Rules shall each appoint five members to the task force. These 10*
3 *members shall include some who have demonstrated knowledge*
4 *and an expertise in any of the following:*

- 5 (1) Fibromyalgia research.
- 6 (2) Fibromyalgia prevention.
- 7 (3) Fibromyalgia educational programs.
- 8 (4) Fibromyalgia consumer needs; and be it further

9 *Resolved, That the National Fibromyalgia Association shall*
10 *convene the first meeting of the task force to elect officers; and*
11 *be it further*

12 *Resolved, That the National Fibromyalgia Association shall*
13 *supply supporting staff to the task force; and be it further*

14 *Resolved, That members of the task force shall not receive any*
15 *compensation for serving on the task force; and be it further*

16 *Resolved, That the task force shall perform various functions*
17 *regarding fibromyalgia, including, but not limited to, the following:*

18 (a) *Establishing a public information and outreach campaign*
19 *targeting women between 20 and 50 years of age, that includes*
20 *appropriate educational material aimed at promoting early*
21 *diagnosis and treatment, preventing complications, improving*
22 *quality of life at home and in the workplace, and addressing mental*
23 *health and disability issues of fibromyalgia patients.*

24 (b) *Promoting fibromyalgia education and training programs*
25 *for physicians and other health professionals.*

26 (c) *Collaborating with a broad group of stakeholders, reviewing*
27 *current state policies and practices concerning treatment of*
28 *fibromyalgia, and developing a State Fibromyalgia Strategic Plan*
29 *for 2010 to 2020, inclusive. The plan shall be submitted to the*
30 *Legislature by September 1, 2009.*

31 (d) *Holding a Fibromyalgia Summit during the 2009–10 Regular*
32 *Session of the Legislature to make public the findings and progress*
33 *of the Legislative Task Force on Fibromyalgia; and be it further*

34 ~~*Resolved, That the task force is authorized to use existing*~~
35 ~~*resources to support its activities, but should be allowed to solicit*~~

36 *RESOLVED, That state funds shall not be used to support task*
37 *force activities, but the task force should be allowed to solicit*
38 *funding from public and private foundations, and make use of*
39 *available federal funds; and be it further*

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 2 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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