

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 25, 2008

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

31 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
32 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislative Task Force on
33 Fibromyalgia is hereby established, which shall consist of 14
34 members, as follows:

35 (a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint to the task force
36 one Member of the Assembly from the majority caucus and one
37 Member of the Assembly from the minority caucus.

38 (b) The Senate Committee on Rules shall appoint to the task
39 force one Member of the Senate from the majority caucus and one
40 Member of the Senate from the minority caucus.

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 state funds shall not be used to support task force
35 activities, but the task force ~~should be allowed to~~ *may* solicit
36 funding from public and private foundations, and make use of
37 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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