

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 159**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Davis  
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Dymally)**

November 6, 2008

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 159—Relative to Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 159, as introduced, Davis. Management of Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital.

This measure would urge the University of California to expedite negotiations with the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County and the Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science to discuss the future management of Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital in the Watts/Willowbrook area of south Los Angeles County.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Los Angeles County is divided into eight “Service
- 2 Planning Areas” (SPAs) for health care planning purposes; and
- 3 WHEREAS, The Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital building is
- 4 located in SPA 6, but it closed in August 2007 and currently an
- 5 outpatient clinic operates on the site; and
- 6 WHEREAS, SPA 6 consists of 1.6 million people, but does not
- 7 have a public hospital; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The only private hospital in SPA 6 is St. Francis
- 9 Medical Center; and
- 10 WHEREAS, SPA 6 is the poorest and most underserved area
- 11 in the State of California; and

1 WHEREAS, There is an immediate need for a public teaching  
2 hospital to serve SPA 6; and

3 WHEREAS, The five University of California medical schools  
4 have had success administering public hospitals in San Francisco,  
5 Sacramento, Torrance, Irvine, and San Diego; and

6 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County  
7 has expressed public interest in, and Governor Schwarzenegger  
8 has expressed support for, a hospital takeover by the University  
9 of California; and

10 WHEREAS, Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science  
11 has a need for a teaching hospital; and

12 WHEREAS, SPA 6 has an urgent and growing need for medical  
13 doctors and other health professionals to be trained and to work  
14 locally; and

15 WHEREAS, The general public would benefit from the joint  
16 operation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital by Los Angeles  
17 County, the Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science,  
18 and the University of California; now, therefore, be it

19 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
20 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature urges the University of  
21 California to expedite negotiations with the Board of Supervisors  
22 of Los Angeles County and the Charles Drew University of  
23 Medicine and Science to discuss the future management of Martin  
24 Luther King, Jr. Hospital in the Watts/Willowbrook area of south  
25 Los Angeles County; and be it further

26 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
27 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.