

**Introduced by Senator Padilla**

March 19, 2007

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31—Relative to Healthy Communities Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 31, as introduced, Padilla. Healthy Communities Awareness Month.

This measure would recognize the importance of health and wellness in communities and would declare May as Healthy Communities Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, There are more than 36 million people living in  
2 California; and  
3 WHEREAS, Nearly 20 percent of California adults and 27  
4 percent of California children are considered overweight or obese;  
5 and  
6 WHEREAS, Obesity is the fastest growing, most threatening  
7 disease in America today; and  
8 WHEREAS, The League of California Cities, the California  
9 State Association of Counties, and the California School Boards  
10 Association support policies that focus on health and wellness,  
11 continuing education, and healthier lifestyles in all communities;  
12 and  
13 WHEREAS, Many cities, counties, and schools have adopted  
14 policies, programs, and ordinances that promote healthy lifestyles  
15 by making their communities walkable, promoting youth and senior  
16 activities, eliminating the sale of junk food in city, county, or

1 school facilities, providing incentives for stores that sell fresh  
2 produce to locate in depressed neighborhoods, and providing  
3 exercise opportunities for their residents; and

4 WHEREAS, The Cities, Counties and Schools Partnership Board  
5 of Directors adopted “Healthy Children, Healthy Communities:  
6 An Action Guide for California Communities” to support local  
7 government in collaboratively addressing child obesity; and

8 WHEREAS, City, county, and school officials believe there are  
9 important, long-term community benefits to be gained by  
10 encouraging healthy lifestyles, including a potential decrease in  
11 the rate of childhood obesity and its negative health-related  
12 impacts; and

13 WHEREAS, State and local communities can work together to  
14 understand the relationship between obesity, land use policies, and  
15 community planning; and

16 WHEREAS, The state and local communities can work together  
17 to ensure that there are safe places for their residents to be active  
18 such as in parks, ball fields, pools, gyms, and recreation centers;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Access to healthy foods has a direct impact on the  
21 overall health of our community and planning for fresh food, open  
22 space, sidewalks, and parks should be a priority; now therefore,  
23 be it

24 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
25 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature recognizes the importance  
26 of health and wellness in communities and the role planning plays  
27 in keeping our state and communities healthy and hereby declares  
28 this May and every May thereafter to be Healthy Communities  
29 Awareness Month; and be it further

30 *Resolved,* That the Legislature encourages all citizens and local  
31 governments to celebrate Healthy Communities Awareness Month  
32 in a variety of ways; and be it further

33 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate provide copies of  
34 this resolution to the author’s office for appropriate distribution.