

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 30, 2008

**Senate Joint Resolution**

**No. 25**

---

**Introduced by Senator Negrete McLeod**  
**(Coauthors: Senators ~~Correa and Margett~~ *Correa, Kuehl, Margett,***  
***and Romero*)**  
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Dymally, Garcia, *Portantino,*  
Sharon Runner, and Saldana)

March 10, 2008

---

Senate Joint Resolution No. 25—Relative to fibromyalgia.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 25, as amended, Negrete McLeod. Fibromyalgia.

This measure would urge the Congress of the United States to accelerate the federal investment in fibromyalgia research at the National Institutes of Health, to ensure adequate Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement and coverage of fibromyalgia therapies, and to launch a multifaceted public awareness campaign on fibromyalgia.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is defined by the American College  
2 of Rheumatology as a disabling pain condition. Fibromyalgia  
3 symptoms include chronic pain throughout the body, extreme  
4 fatigue, sleep disorders, stiffness, weakness, migraine headaches,  
5 and impairment of memory and concentration; and  
6 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is a common condition with no  
7 known cure that affects women, men, and children of all ethnicities;  
8 and  
9 WHEREAS, An estimated 10 million people in the United  
10 States, which is 6 to 8 percent of the country's population, and

1 *States and* millions of people worldwide have been diagnosed with  
2 fibromyalgia; and

3 WHEREAS, There is no test for fibromyalgia, so it often takes  
4 an average of five years to receive a diagnosis. Furthermore,  
5 medical professionals are frequently inadequately educated on  
6 diagnosis and treatment of fibromyalgia; and

7 WHEREAS, Many fibromyalgia patients find themselves  
8 underinsured or uninsured because they are too sick to work or  
9 have been denied health care coverage and access to treatments  
10 because they have fibromyalgia; and

11 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia costs the United States health care  
12 system \$20 billion annually and strongly impacts families who  
13 experience lost wages and extensive out-of-pocket medical costs;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The California Legislative Women’s Caucus  
16 recognizes that 80 percent of fibromyalgia patients are women,  
17 that hundreds of thousands of those affected by fibromyalgia live  
18 in California, and that there is an urgent need to respond to the  
19 vast needs of this patient population; and

20 WHEREAS, The California Legislative Women’s Caucus has  
21 taken the National Fibromyalgia Association’s Pledge to Care by  
22 advocating for improved treatments, expanded research,  
23 comprehensive health insurance coverage, and increased awareness  
24 of fibromyalgia; now, therefore, be it

25 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*  
26 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature respectfully urges the  
27 Congress of the United States to accelerate the federal investment  
28 in fibromyalgia research at the National Institutes of Health, to  
29 ensure adequate Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement and  
30 coverage of fibromyalgia therapies, and to launch a multifaceted  
31 public awareness campaign on fibromyalgia; and be it further

32 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
33 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
34 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the  
35 Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and  
36 Representative from California in the Congress of the United  
37 States.

O