

## Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 65

### RESOLUTION CHAPTER 131

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 65—Relative to adoption.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 18, 2007.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 65, Steinberg. Adoption.

This measure would designate November 2007 as Court Adoption and Permanency Month and would encourage courts and communities to join in activities to expedite permanency for children who have been abused or neglected.

WHEREAS, Each year in California nearly 485,000 reports are made of child abuse and neglect, and some 26,000 children enter foster care; and

WHEREAS, About 77,000 children in California live apart from their families in child welfare supervised out-of-home care; and

WHEREAS, Nearly half of the children in foster care in California have been away from their families in out-of-home care for two or more years; and

WHEREAS, Of the 36,000 children leaving foster care between July 2005 and June 2006, 55 percent were reunited with their families, 20 percent were adopted, and 12 percent were emancipated; and

WHEREAS, Local courts and communities throughout California have created programs promoting permanency that have resulted in a decrease in the number of children waiting for permanent, safe homes; and

WHEREAS, The Judicial Council is committed to working with the Governor, the Legislature, and local courts and communities to achieve permanency for children who have been abused or neglected; and

WHEREAS, The California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care was appointed by the Judicial Council to recognize that the courts and their partners can improve safety, permanency, well-being, and fairness outcomes for children and families; and

WHEREAS, The Senate and the Assembly are committed to working together to improve outcomes for children in the child welfare system; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates November 2007 as Court Adoption and Permanency Month, during which the courts and their local communities are encouraged to join in activities to expedite permanency for children who have been abused or neglected; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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