
Introduced by Senator Correa

February 17, 2010

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 74—Relative to senior volunteers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 74, as introduced, Correa. Senior Volunteer Month.

This measure would declare May 2010 to be “Senior Volunteer Month” to honor the contributions of California’s senior volunteers.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Each May, Americans observe Older Americans
2 Month and celebrate the accomplishments and achievements of
3 older Americans; and
4 WHEREAS, Many local governments have proclaimed May to
5 be Older Americans Month; and
6 WHEREAS, Senior volunteers serve congregate and
7 home-delivered meals, engage in assisted senior activities, work
8 for the prevention of elder abuse, and provide health care
9 counseling, legal assistance, and transportation; and
10 WHEREAS, Volunteer work is performed for Alzheimer’s
11 patients, grandchildren, community organizations, schools,
12 churches, hospitals, and many other nonprofit organizations; and
13 WHEREAS, A national survey in 1999 showed senior citizens’
14 volunteer work hours totaled approximately 5.5 billion hours a
15 year at an estimated value of \$71.2 billion. Forty-five percent of
16 seniors reported volunteering in neighborhoods, 54 percent of
17 senior volunteers were either full- or part-time employed, and 45
18 percent of retired seniors volunteered four or more hours weekly.

1 Eighty-one percent of those over 75 years of age volunteer when
2 asked; and

3 WHEREAS, Many local governments, nonprofit organizations,
4 and senior centers recognize senior volunteers once a year by
5 providing honorary certificates; and

6 WHEREAS, Many senior volunteers are in better health and
7 live longer due to advancements in medical science; and

8 WHEREAS, A major motivator for senior volunteers is their
9 desire to give back to society financially or socially; and

10 WHEREAS, The 2005 White House Conference on Aging
11 resolved to “develop a national strategy for promoting new and
12 meaningful volunteer activities and civil engagements for current
13 and future seniors” because volunteerism is very important to the
14 fabric of American society; and

15 WHEREAS, The 2005 White House Conference on Aging
16 resolved to “reauthorize the National And Community Service Act
17 to expand opportunities for volunteer and civic engagement
18 activities” because volunteerism greatly assists many nonprofit
19 organizations; now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
21 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares May 2010 to be
22 “Senior Volunteer Month” to honor the contributions of
23 California’s senior volunteers; and be it further

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