

**Introduced by Senator Steinberg**

April 26, 2010

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 104—Relative to Foster Care Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 104, as introduced, Steinberg. Foster Care Month.  
This measure would designate May 2010 as Foster Care Month.  
Fiscal committee: no.

- 1     WHEREAS, In California, there are more than 60,000 children  
2     and youth in foster care who need and deserve safe and stable  
3     homes, permanent connections to loving adults, and adequate  
4     preparation for adulthood; and  
5     WHEREAS, A child's and youth's need for a sense of belonging,  
6     unconditional love, and emotional commitment are best met in  
7     families; and  
8     WHEREAS, Many California counties are working to provide  
9     permanent family connections for foster youth, provide support  
10    for families at risk of entering the child welfare system, and  
11    improve practices to fully engage youth, family, and communities,  
12    thereby reducing the number of children and youth in foster care;  
13    and  
14    WHEREAS, California recognizes the enduring and valuable  
15    contribution of relatives, foster parents, and adoptive parents who  
16    open their hearts, families, and homes to vulnerable children and  
17    youth; and  
18    WHEREAS, California recognizes the numerous individuals in  
19    public agencies and private organizations that work to ensure that

1 the needs of children and youth living in, and leaving, foster care  
2 are met, that help to provide foster children and youth and former  
3 foster children and youth with vital connections to their siblings,  
4 and that help launch young people into successful adulthood; and

5 WHEREAS, The current economic recession has presented  
6 additional challenges for individuals, agencies, and organizations  
7 working to meet the needs of foster youth; and

8 WHEREAS, A recent federal law, the Fostering Connections  
9 to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (Public Law  
10 110-351), offers opportunities to improve California’s efforts to  
11 promote permanent families for children in foster care, improve  
12 outcomes for older youth in foster care, increase support for Native  
13 American foster children and youth, improve the quality of staff  
14 working with children and youth in the child welfare system,  
15 expand our support of relative and adoptive caregivers, and assist  
16 older foster youth in securing meaningful supportive transitions  
17 from foster care; and

18 WHEREAS, The federal act affirms California’s leadership and  
19 success in pioneering innovative child welfare approaches; and

20 WHEREAS, California is committed to working in partnership  
21 with the federal government to improve the lives and futures of  
22 all children and youth touched by the child welfare system; now,  
23 therefore, be it

24 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
25 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates May 2010 as  
26 Foster Care Month; and be it further

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