

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 1, 2011

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 3, 2011

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 26

Introduced by Assembly Member Galgiani
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Atkins, Bonilla, Logue, Mansoor,
and Silva)

(Coauthors: Senators Hernandez and Strickland)

February 18, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 26—Relative to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 26, as amended, Galgiani. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease awareness.

This measure would encourage the State Department of Health Care Services, the State Department of Public Health, and other state entities to partner with ~~COPD~~ *chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)* stakeholders to improve education regarding ~~chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)~~ *COPD* in the course of implementing the statewide strategic plan.

This measure would also designate November 2011, as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Awareness Month in California. This measure would also encourage public officials and the citizens of California to increase awareness of the symptoms of, and the methods of preventing, COPD.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD),
2 also known as chronic bronchitis and emphysema, is the fourth
3 leading cause of death in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, COPD is a chronic and progressive disease that
5 impacts an estimated 24 million Americans each year,
6 approximately five million of whom are residents of California,
7 and an estimated 1.6 million of whom suffer directly from the
8 disease; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2007, the national annual cost for COPD was
10 estimated to be \$42.6 billion and in that same year, COPD caused
11 approximately 121,000 deaths nationwide; and

12 WHEREAS, The Office of Statewide Health Planning and
13 Development reported that hospitalizations associated with COPD
14 alone amounted to an estimated \$1.34 billion in medical costs
15 within the state; and

16 WHEREAS, Many patients suffering with COPD are not
17 diagnosed until they have reached an advanced stage of COPD,
18 which often includes a disabling degree of lung dysfunction; and

19 WHEREAS, A diagnostic test for COPD, known as spirometry,
20 is available for office use, allowing early diagnosis of COPD; and

21 WHEREAS, Early diagnosis and management of COPD can
22 effectively reduce the overall financial burden of this illness on
23 publicly funded health care programs, including Medi-Cal; and

24 WHEREAS, Achieving early diagnosis and proper management
25 of COPD among California's diverse populations, within the
26 Medi-Cal program as well as other publicly funded health care
27 programs, requires overcoming cultural, language, and literacy
28 challenges; and

29 WHEREAS, Proper management of COPD can lead to an
30 improved quality of life and self-sufficiency for patients who
31 receive publicly funded benefits; and

32 WHEREAS, The "Healthy People-2011" 2020" project of the
33 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National
34 Institutes of Health concludes that, while primary care physicians
35 are in a key position to provide optimal care to patients with COPD
36 and to provide counseling during clinical or health center visits,
37 primary care physicians need to be trained in the latest methods
38 for diagnosing and treating the disease; and

39 WHEREAS, The California COPD Coalition has developed a
40 comprehensive plan to address COPD in the state, entitled the

1 “Strategic Plan to Address COPD in California,” which outlines
2 six-goals goal areas, including all of the following: prevention,
3 quality of care, public health infrastructure and advocacy,
4 surveillance, research, and public education awareness; now,
5 therefore, be it

6 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
7 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature encourages the State
8 Department of Health Care Services, the State Department of
9 Public Health, and other state entities to, whenever possible, partner
10 with COPD stakeholders to improve education in California
11 regarding COPD in the course of implementing the statewide
12 strategic plan; and be it further

13 *Resolved*, That the Legislature designates November 2011, as
14 Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Awareness Month in
15 California. The Legislature encourages public officials and the
16 citizens of California to increase awareness about the symptoms
17 of, and the methods of preventing, COPD; and be it further

18 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
19 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.