

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 32

Introduced by Assembly Member Harkey

March 7, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 32—Relative to child sexual abuse.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 32, as introduced, Harkey. Child sexual abuse awareness.

This measure would declare April 29, 2011, as the day of the annual TAALK-a-Thon sponsored by Talk About Abuse to Liberate Kids (TAALK), and would encourage all adults in California to be knowledgeable and outspoken about the prevention of child sexual abuse.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Child sexual abuse affects over 20 percent of
2 minors. One in three girls and one in six boys will be victims of
3 sexual abuse before they are 18 years of age; and
4 WHEREAS, We know that child sexual abuse is both predictable
5 and preventable for more than 90 percent of victims who are abused
6 by a family member or another person the victim knows and trusts;
7 and
8 WHEREAS, Children are the most valuable and vulnerable
9 members of society, and child sexual abuse is an epidemic that
10 threatens their health, safety, and well-being; and
11 WHEREAS, Survivors of child sexual abuse often suffer
12 long-term physical, emotional, and social effects, including

1 substance abuse, eating disorders, anxiety and depression, increased
2 disease, and even early death; and

3 WHEREAS, To ensure the safety of children, knowledgeable
4 and outspoken adults are needed, and education and awareness
5 programs provide communities with the knowledge and tools
6 necessary to help prevent future abuse; and

7 WHEREAS, Talk About Abuse to Liberate Kids (TAALK) is
8 California's leading nonprofit organization dedicated to education,
9 awareness, and support for victims and families, which are, in part,
10 realized through a global TAALK-a-Thon that takes place annually,
11 in conjunction with Sexual Abuse Awareness Month, in April; and

12 WHEREAS, The TAALK-a-Thon provides opportunities for
13 education, forums for awareness, and opportunities for individuals
14 to share their stories and voice their concerns, and to begin
15 statewide, nationwide, and worldwide discussions about the
16 tragedy, resolution, and healing of child sexual abuse; and

17 WHEREAS, Bringing people together to talk about child sexual
18 abuse and prevention not only provides widespread education, but
19 empowers survivors to break the silence and begin to heal; now,
20 therefore, be it

21 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
22 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares April 29, 2011,
23 as the day of the annual TAALK-a-Thon sponsored by TAALK;
24 and be it further

25 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourages all adults in California
26 to be knowledgeable and outspoken about the prevention of child
27 sexual abuse; and be it further

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