

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 21, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 101

Introduced by Assembly Members Lara and Ma
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alejo, Block, Bonilla, Butler, Campos, Fletcher, Gordon, Hall, Huffman, Mitchell, Monning, Swanson, Torres, Wieckowski, ~~and Williams~~ Williams, Achadjian, Allen, Ammiano, Atkins, Beall, Bill Berryhill, Blumenfield, Bradford, Brownley, Buchanan, Charles Calderon, Carter, Chesbro, Cook, Davis, Dickinson, Eng, Feuer, Fong, Furutani, Beth Gaines, Galgiani, Gatto, Hagman, Harkey, Hayashi, Roger Hernández, Hill, Huber, Hueso, Jeffries, Jones, Bonnie Lowenthal, Mansoor, Mendoza, Miller, Nestande, Nielsen, Olsen, Pan, Perea, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Portantino, Skinner, Smyth, Solorio, Valadao, Wagner, and Yamada)

February 6, 2012

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 101—Relative to Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 101, as amended, Lara. Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month.

This measure would designate the month of February 2012 as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, and would encourage all Californians to observe Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month with appropriate programs and activities that raise awareness about teen dating violence and promote healthy teen relationships in their communities.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Teen dating violence, also known as dating abuse,
2 is a serious and growing problem throughout California; and

3 WHEREAS, In a study of California high school pupils, 7
4 percent of 11th graders indicated that they were victims of teen
5 dating violence in the past 12 months; and

6 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and
7 Prevention, nearly 10 percent of high school students have been
8 hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or
9 girlfriend in the past year; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the United States Bureau of Justice
11 Statistics, females 16 to 24 years of age are more vulnerable to
12 intimate partner violence than any other age group, at a rate almost
13 triple the overall average; and

14 WHEREAS, According to Liz Claiborne's 2009 Parent/Teen
15 Dating Violence Poll, approximately one in three adolescent girls
16 in the United States is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal
17 abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds victimization
18 rates for other types of violence affecting youth; and

19 WHEREAS, Teen dating violence has been linked to other forms
20 of violence and aggression against peers, including bullying, sexual
21 harassment, sexual violence, and physical violence; and

22 WHEREAS, Victims of teen dating violence are at increased
23 risk for low academic performance, truancy, dropout, teen
24 pregnancy, suicide, having eating disorders, and engaging in other
25 harmful behaviors such as use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, A substantial number of incidents of dating
28 violence occur in school buildings and on school grounds; and

29 WHEREAS, Victims of teen dating violence are also at increased
30 risk for carrying a weapon to school, being threatened or injured
31 with a weapon at school, and damaging school property; and

32 WHEREAS, Pupils who are victims in high school are at higher
33 risk for victimization during college, and adolescent perpetrators
34 of dating violence are more likely to abuse their intimate partners
35 as adults; and

36 WHEREAS, Teen dating violence intervention and prevention
37 programs can address warning signs of dating violence among
38 pupils before behaviors escalate, protect the safety of targeted
39 students, and help to ensure a positive school climate and safe
40 learning environment for all pupils; and

1 WHEREAS, The establishment of Teen Dating Violence
2 Awareness and Prevention Month will benefit schools,
3 communities, families, and all youth; now, therefore, be it

4 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
5 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims the month of
6 February 2012 as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention
7 Month, and supports communities to empower teens to develop
8 healthy and violence-free relationships throughout their lives; and
9 be it further

10 *Resolved*, That the Legislature calls upon the people of
11 California, including youth, families, schools, and community
12 groups, to observe Teen Dating Violence Awareness and
13 Prevention Month with programs and activities that raise awareness
14 about the dynamics of teen dating violence and support young
15 people in learning the skills to have safe and healthy relationships;
16 and be it further

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

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