

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 26, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 107

Introduced by Assembly Members Eng and Cook

(Principal coauthor: Senator Correa)

(Coauthor: ~~Assembly Member Pan~~ Members Pan, Achadjian, Alejo, Allen, Ammiano, Atkins, Bill Berryhill, Block, Bonilla, Bradford, Brownley, Buchanan, Butler, Campos, Carter, Chesbro, Conway, Davis, Dickinson, Donnelly, Fong, Beth Gaines, Garrick, Gatto, Gordon, Gorell, Grove, Hagman, Halderman, Hayashi, Roger Hernández, Hill, Huber, Hueso, Huffman, Jeffries, Knight, Lara, Logue, Bonnie Lowenthal, Ma, Mansoor, Mendoza, Miller, Mitchell, Monning, Nestande, Olsen, Perea, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Portantino, Silva, Smyth, Swanson, Torres, Valadao, Wagner, Wieckowski, and Yamada)

(Coauthor: Senator Cannella)

February 13, 2012

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 107—Relative to PTSD Awareness Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 107, as amended, Eng. PTSD Awareness Day.

This measure would recognize June 27, 2012, as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Throughout our nation's history, the men and
- 2 women of the United States Armed Forces have preserved our
- 3 freedom, protected our security, and upheld our democratic values;

1 from the battles of the American Revolution through the crucible
2 of two world wars to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan today, our
3 men and women in uniform have stood proudly in defense of the
4 United States and the cause of liberty; and

5 WHEREAS, The brave men and women of the United States
6 Armed Forces, who proudly serve the United States, risk their lives
7 to protect the freedom of the United States and deserve the
8 investment of every reasonable resource to ensure their lasting
9 physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

10 WHEREAS, The incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder
11 (PTSD) in members of the military is rising as the United States
12 Armed Forces conducts two wars, exposing hundreds of thousands
13 of soldiers to traumatic life-threatening events; and

14 WHEREAS, The federal Department of Veterans Affairs
15 estimates that as many as 95 percent of veterans returning from
16 combat in Iraq and Afghanistan have some form of PTSD; and

17 WHEREAS, Symptoms include nightmares, feeling numb,
18 having difficulty experiencing love or closeness with others, feeling
19 jittery or overly alert, having difficulty sleeping, experiencing
20 anger or irritability, having difficulty concentrating, substance
21 problems, and having feelings of despair or hopelessness; and

22 WHEREAS, Although the Department of Defense and the
23 Department of Veterans Affairs have made significant advances
24 in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of PTSD and the
25 symptoms of PTSD, many challenges remain; and

26 WHEREAS, According to the National Institute for Mental
27 Health, PTSD is an anxiety disorder that can develop after exposure
28 to a terrifying event or ordeal in which grave physical harm
29 occurred or was threatened; and

30 WHEREAS, The Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary
31 of Defense should continue to work to educate service members,
32 veterans, the families of service members and veterans, and the
33 public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of PTSD; and

34 WHEREAS, It is important to all citizens of the State of
35 California, that those who served our country in the military are
36 aware of the symptoms of PTSD and are able to seek help; now,
37 therefore, be it

38 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
39 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature pause in its deliberations
40 to memorialize Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., and to proclaim

1 June 27, 2012, as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Day
2 in the state, fully confident that such procedure mirrors our shared
3 commitment to preserve, to ensure, and to yet effect that patrimony
4 of freedom which is our American Heritage; and be it further
5 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
6 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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