

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 5, 2012

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 63

Introduced by Senator Gaines

February 9, 2012

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 63—Relative to Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 63, as amended, Gaines. Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

This measure would designate the month of September 2012 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the State of California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that one
2 in six men will develop prostate cancer in ~~their~~ *his* lifetime.
3 Approximately 241,740 new cases of the disease in the United
4 States are predicted for 2012, ~~resulting which would result~~ in nearly
5 28,170 deaths; and

6 WHEREAS, In California, prostate cancer is the most common
7 cancer among men in all race and ethnic groups. African American
8 men are at especially high risk for prostate cancer; and

9 WHEREAS, In California, approximately 23,410 men are
10 predicted to be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2012, and, of
11 this number, approximately 3,110 men are predicted to die of this
12 disease; and

13 WHEREAS, *California is home to approximately 621,336*
14 *Vietnam-era veterans, the largest population of Vietnam War-era*
15 *veterans in the country; and*

1 WHEREAS, In 2008, physicians at the UC Davis Cancer Center
2 released results showing that Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent
3 Orange have greatly increased risks of prostate cancer and even
4 greater risks of getting the most aggressive form of the disease,
5 and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs has
6 determined that if a veteran served in Vietnam and has prostate
7 cancer, it is presumed that the cancer is a result of that veteran's
8 service; and

9 WHEREAS, While prostate cancer is a leading cause of cancer
10 deaths in men, little is known about this disease and there are
11 usually no symptoms in the early stages; and

12 WHEREAS, The survival rate approaches 100 percent when
13 prostate cancer is diagnosed and treated early, but drops to 29
14 percent when the disease spreads to other parts of the body; and

15 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society recommends that
16 health care providers offer a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood
17 test and a digital rectal examination (DRE) annually to men who
18 have at least a 10-year life expectancy, beginning when the men
19 are 50 years of age; and

20 WHEREAS, Men in high-risk groups, such as African American
21 men or those with brothers or fathers who have had prostate cancer,
22 should be offered a PSA and DRE beginning when they are 45
23 years of age; and

24 WHEREAS, Men who have multiple family members who were
25 diagnosed with prostate cancer at an early age should consult with
26 their health care provider about prostate cancer screening beginning
27 when they are 40 years of age; now, therefore, be it

28 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
29 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the month of
30 September 2012 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the State
31 of California and encourages public officials and citizens of
32 California to observe the month with appropriate activities and
33 programs; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Legislature joins communities across our
35 nation to increase the awareness of the importance of early
36 detection and treatment of prostate cancer; and be it further

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

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