
**Introduced by Senator Gaines
(Coauthor: Senator Alquist)**

March 13, 2012

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 74—Relative to Brain Injury Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 74, as introduced, Gaines. Brain Injury Awareness Month.

This measure would designate March 2012 as Brain Injury Awareness Month, and applaud the Brain Injury Association of California for its contributions toward educating Californians on matters pertaining to traumatic brain injury.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Each year, an estimated 1.7 million Americans
2 sustain a traumatic brain injury; and
3 WHEREAS, A traumatic brain injury is a contributing factor in
4 roughly one-third of all injury-related deaths in the United States;
5 and
6 WHEREAS, In California, each year nearly 200,000 people are
7 treated and released from emergency departments and over 30,000
8 more are hospitalized with a primary or secondary diagnosis of
9 nonfatal traumatic brain injury; and
10 WHEREAS, These injuries are largely the result of motor
11 vehicle crashes, falls, assaults, sporting-related injuries, or
12 occupational injuries; and
13 WHEREAS, Traumatic brain injury is the signature injury of
14 the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, presenting new challenges for
15 members of the military and their families; and

1 WHEREAS, The federal Centers for Disease Control and
2 Prevention estimates that as many as 3.8 million
3 sports-and-recreation-related concussions occur in the United
4 States annually; and

5 WHEREAS, The likelihood of suffering a concussion while
6 playing a contact sport is estimated to be as high as 19 percent per
7 year of playing and occurs across all age groups and between both
8 genders; and

9 WHEREAS, Football presents the greatest concussion risk for
10 males, with a 75-percent chance of concussion, and soccer presents
11 the greatest concussion risk for females, with a 50-percent chance
12 of concussion; and

13 WHEREAS, An injury that happens in an instant can bring a
14 lifetime of physical, cognitive, and behavioral challenges; and

15 WHEREAS, Early, equal, and adequate access to health care
16 will greatly increase the overall quality of life of those traumatically
17 injured, and will enable individuals to return to their homes,
18 schools, workplaces, and communities; and

19 WHEREAS, The Brain Injury Association of California offers
20 education and support to families and individuals with traumatic
21 brain injury to help them live as independently as possible through
22 community integration; and

23 WHEREAS, The Brain Injury Association of California has
24 designated March as Brain Injury Awareness Month to promote
25 public awareness on the extent, causes, consequences, treatment,
26 and prevention of traumatic brain injury; now, therefore, be it

27 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
28 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designate March 2012 as
29 Brain Injury Awareness Month, and applaud the Brain Injury
30 Association of California for its invaluable contributions toward
31 educating the citizens of our great state on matters pertaining to
32 traumatic brain injury prevention, treatment, resources, supports,
33 and assistance; and be it further

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

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