

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 26, 2012

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 74

**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 amended, 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

1 WHEREAS, Traumatic brain injury is the signature injury of
2 the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, presenting new challenges for
3 members of the military and their families; and

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

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

12 WHEREAS, Football presents the greatest concussion risk for
13 males, with a 75-percent chance of concussion, and soccer presents
14 the greatest concussion risk for females, with a 50-percent chance
15 of concussion; and

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

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

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

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

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