

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 32

Introduced by Assembly Member Lowenthal
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Rendon)
(Coauthor: Senator Wright)

March 12, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 32—Relative to Building and Safety Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 32, as introduced, Lowenthal. Building and Safety Month.

This measure would declare May 2013, Building and Safety Month and encourage all local governments to recognize the provisions in city and county government building and safety codes regulating illegal garage conversions as “Aviles Law.”

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, In neighborhoods and workplaces across the State
2 of California, professionals throughout government and private
3 industries work to implement building safety solutions that
4 strengthen resilience and meet community needs; and
5 WHEREAS, By designing and implementing state-of-the-art
6 building safety, energy efficiency, and fire prevention codes and
7 standards, governments and laws help save lives and prevent
8 disruption in the wake of disasters and accidents; and
9 WHEREAS, Protecting our communities from fires, floods,
10 earthquakes, severe storms, or other disasters, building safety
11 professionals play a critical role in making California safe, strong,
12 and sustainable; and

1 WHEREAS, Despite established building codes, a tragedy
2 occurred in the City of Long Beach on December 14, 2007, in
3 which three young sisters, Jasmine Aviles, Jocelyn Aviles, and
4 Stephanie Aviles, lost their lives in a fire that occurred inside a
5 garage that had been illegally converted into an apartment; and
6 WHEREAS, Immediately following the tragedy, the city
7 commenced an aggressive code enforcement operation led by fire
8 department officials and building and safety code enforcement
9 investigators to identify structures that ignore rigid fire and building
10 code standards to eliminate the use of illegally converted garages
11 as living spaces; and
12 WHEREAS, To educate the public, reinforce the dangers of
13 illegal garage conversions, and memorialize Jasmine Aviles,
14 Jocelyn Aviles, and Stephanie Aviles, the City of Long Beach,
15 with the support of the Aviles family, renamed municipal codes,
16 recognizing those sections of the Long Beach Municipal Code
17 relating to the abatement of illegal garage conversions as the
18 “Aviles Law”; and
19 WHEREAS, Proper building and safety code enforcement,
20 including those that regulate illegal garage conversion, may save
21 lives; now, therefore, be it
22 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
23 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature declares May 2013,
24 Building and Safety Month in the State of California and
25 encourages all local governments to recognize the provisions in
26 city and county government building and safety codes regulating
27 illegal garage conversions as “Aviles Law.”