

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 32

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 44

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

[Filed with Secretary of State June 5, 2013.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 32, 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.”

WHEREAS, In neighborhoods and workplaces across the State of California, professionals throughout government and private industries work to implement building safety solutions that strengthen resilience and meet community needs; and

WHEREAS, By designing and implementing state-of-the-art building safety, energy efficiency, and fire prevention codes and standards, governments and laws help save lives and prevent disruption in the wake of disasters and accidents; and

WHEREAS, Protecting our communities from fires, floods, earthquakes, severe storms, or other disasters, building safety professionals play a critical role in making California safe, strong, and sustainable; and

WHEREAS, Despite established building codes, a tragedy occurred in the City of Long Beach on December 14, 2007, in which three young sisters, Jasmine Aviles, Jocelyn Aviles, and Stephanie Aviles, lost their lives in a fire that occurred inside a garage that had been illegally converted into an apartment; and

WHEREAS, Immediately following the tragedy, the city commenced an aggressive code enforcement operation led by fire department officials and building and safety code enforcement investigators to identify structures that ignore rigid fire and building code standards to eliminate the use of illegally converted garages as living spaces; and

WHEREAS, To educate the public, reinforce the dangers of illegal garage conversions, and memorialize Jasmine Aviles, Jocelyn Aviles, and Stephanie Aviles, the City of Long Beach, with the support of the Aviles family, renamed municipal codes, recognizing those sections of the Long Beach Municipal Code relating to the abatement of illegal garage conversions as the “Aviles Law”; and

WHEREAS, Proper building and safety code enforcement, including those that regulate illegal garage conversion, may save lives; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature declares May 2013, Building and Safety Month in the State of California and encourages all local governments to recognize the provisions in city and county government building and safety codes regulating illegal garage conversions as “Aviles Law.”