

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 46**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Achadjian**  
(Principal coauthor: Senator Monning)

April 15, 2013

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 46—Relative to Viral Hepatitis Awareness Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 46, as introduced, Achadjian. Viral Hepatitis Awareness Day.  
This measure would proclaim May 19, 2013, as Viral Hepatitis Awareness Day in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1     WHEREAS, Liver cancer and liver disease related to hepatitis  
2     B and C are two of the leading killers in California; and  
3     WHEREAS, Hepatitis C is the most prevalent bloodborne  
4     disease in the United States and in California; and  
5     WHEREAS, Early detection of hepatitis B or C infection  
6     promotes effective management or treatment of these infections,  
7     preventing disability, loss of productivity and income, and allowing  
8     people to live full, satisfying, and productive lives; and  
9     WHEREAS, Undetected and untreated hepatitis B or C infection  
10    can lead to disability or death; and  
11    WHEREAS, The majority of the estimated 500,000 Californians  
12    with chronic hepatitis C infection do not know they are infected,  
13    and are therefore at high risk of severe liver disease, liver cancer,  
14    or liver failure; and

1 WHEREAS, The majority of the estimated 125,000 California  
2 residents with hepatitis B infection do not know they are infected,  
3 and are therefore at high risk of severe liver disease, liver cancer,  
4 or liver failure; and

5 WHEREAS, Untreated hepatitis B and C are the leading causes  
6 of liver failure requiring liver transplant; and

7 WHEREAS, The federal Centers for Disease Control and  
8 Prevention released updated guidelines calling for everyone born  
9 between 1945 and 1965 to receive a one-time hepatitis C test,  
10 which would save over 100,000 lives; and

11 WHEREAS, There is a vaccine for the prevention of hepatitis  
12 B, the first proven, low-cost vaccination against any form of cancer  
13 made available to Americans; and

14 WHEREAS, The cost of hospitalizations for liver cancer and  
15 liver disease reached \$2 billion in California in 2007, mostly paid  
16 for by tax-supported public health insurers; and

17 WHEREAS, Hepatitis awareness education campaigns and  
18 accessible screening for hepatitis B and C, along with appropriate  
19 treatment, can reduce the damage from hepatitis B and C viral  
20 infection to individuals and to our community, financially, as well  
21 as physically and emotionally; now, therefore, be it

22 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
23 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature of the State of California  
24 hereby proclaims May 19, 2013, as Viral Hepatitis Awareness  
25 Day; and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
27 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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