

## Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 123

### RESOLUTION CHAPTER 45

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 123—Relative to Arthritis Awareness Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State May 30, 2014.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 123, Harkey. Arthritis Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of May 2014 as Arthritis Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, Arthritis includes more than 100 rheumatic diseases and conditions that affect joints, the tissues that surround joints, and other connective tissue; and

WHEREAS, Arthritis is a chronic health problem and the nation's leading cause of physical disability among Americans and is most common among people with multiple chronic conditions; and

WHEREAS, Arthritis causes pain and loss of movement, can limit everyday activities such as walking and dressing, and can even lead to death; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 52.5 million adults in the United States are living with some form of doctor-diagnosed arthritis, representing approximately 22.7 percent of adults in the United States; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 300,000 children under 18 years of age, or approximately one in 250 children, in the United States have some form of arthritis or rheumatic condition; and

WHEREAS, Approximately one-half of all adults with heart disease or diabetes also have arthritis; and

WHEREAS, Arthritis costs the United States economy more than \$128 billion each year, with \$81 billion in direct medical care costs and \$47 billion in indirect costs; and

WHEREAS, Arthritis results in approximately 992,100 hospitalizations and 44 million outpatient visits each year; and

WHEREAS, In California there are more than 5.3 million people living with arthritis, including 38,000 children; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 67 million adults 18 years of age and older will have doctor-diagnosed arthritis by the year 2030; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring,* That the Legislature understands the extent of, and sympathizes with, the severity of the impact of arthritis on Californians; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Legislature recognizes the month of May 2014 as Arthritis Awareness Month and appreciates the efforts of the California

Arthritis Foundation Council to seek access to care for all Californians; and  
be it further

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

O