

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 81

Introduced by Senator Monning

February 14, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 81—Relative to California Essential Tremor Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 81, as amended, Monning. California Essential Tremor Awareness Month.

This measure would designate March 2014 as California Essential Tremor Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Essential tremor is a neurological condition that
2 affects an estimated 10 million Americans; and

3 WHEREAS, Essential tremor causes uncontrollable muscle
4 movements and shaking of the hands, legs, head, and voice of
5 those affected. Although not confined to the elderly, approximately
6 5 percent of people between 40 and 60 years of age are affected
7 and an estimated 9 percent of people over 60 years of age
8 experience symptoms of essential tremor; and

9 WHEREAS, Essential tremor is the most common form of
10 neurological movement disorders and is often misdiagnosed as
11 Parkinson's disease, dystonia, or a condition of aging. The National
12 Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke estimates that the
13 disorder is eight times more common than Parkinson's disease;
14 and

1 WHEREAS, Californians suffering from essential tremor face
2 great hardships in performing activities essential to our daily lives
3 such as eating, drinking, grooming, writing, and communicating
4 with others. While essential tremor is not life threatening, the
5 disruption to daily habits can be a major drain on a patient's quality
6 of life and may often lead to feelings of embarrassment and
7 reoccurring depression; and

8 WHEREAS, There is no definitive cure for essential tremor,
9 and while there are some effective drug therapies available for
10 treatment, no medication has yet been developed to exclusively
11 treat the disorder; and

12 WHEREAS, Increasing public awareness of essential tremor is
13 critical to generate funding for research needed to better understand
14 the condition and develop more effective therapies or medications.
15 Building a greater public awareness of essential tremor can also
16 aide in more effective diagnosis of the disorder; now, therefore,
17 be it

18 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
19 *thereof concurring*, That the month of March 2014 be designated
20 as California Essential Tremor Awareness Month to generate public
21 awareness about the most common neurological condition that
22 affects the quality of life for an estimated 10 million ~~Californians;~~
23 *Americans;* and be it further

24 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
25 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.