

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 7, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 27, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 38

Introduced by Assembly Member Brown

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Baker, Calderon, Dodd, Cristina Garcia, Lackey, McCarty, Steinorth, ~~and~~ Waldron, Achadjian, Alejo, Atkins, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonilla, Bonta, Brough, Burke, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chiu, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly, Eggman, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Gallagher, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gray, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Kim, Levine, Linder, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Olsen, Patterson, Perea, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Wagner, Weber, Wilk, Williams, and Wood)

(Coauthors: Senators Allen, Bates, Huff, and Liu)

February 27, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 38—Relative to unpaid family caregivers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 38, as amended, Brown. California Task Force on Family Caregiving.

This measure would establish the California Task Force on Family Caregiving, to meet monthly to examine issues relative to the challenges faced by family caregivers and opportunities to improve caregiver

support, review the current network and the services and supports available to caregivers, and make policy recommendations to the Legislature. The task force would be required to submit an interim report to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2017, and a final report no later than July 1, 2018.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, A caregiver can be any relative, spouse, partner,
2 friend, or neighbor who has a significant relationship with, and
3 who provides a broad range of assistance to, an older person or an
4 adult with a chronic or disabling condition; and

5 WHEREAS, Almost three-fourths of older people living in a
6 typical community who receive personal assistance rely exclusively
7 on unpaid caregivers for help; and

8 WHEREAS, At present, there is no complete inventory of
9 caregiving programs available to Californians performing unpaid
10 caregiving services for an aging or disabled family member, friend,
11 or neighbor; and

12 WHEREAS, An estimated 5.8 million adults in the state provide
13 care to adult relatives or friends, which equates to an estimated
14 3.9 billion hours a year at an estimated value of \$47 billion each
15 year; and

16 WHEREAS, The economic value of caregivers' unpaid
17 contributions is equivalent to 1.25 times the total Medi-Cal
18 spending, and 4.1 times the funding allotted to Medi-Cal long-term
19 services and supports; and

20 WHEREAS, If family caregivers were no longer available, the
21 economic cost to California's health care and long-term services
22 and supports systems would increase astronomically; and

23 WHEREAS, Family support is a key driver in remaining in
24 one's home and community, but it comes at substantial physical,
25 emotional, and financial cost to the caregivers, their families, and
26 to society; and

27 WHEREAS, Fifty-nine percent of all family caregivers are
28 employed full or part time and family caregivers typically spend
29 20 hours a week caring for a family member who needs help with
30 bathing, dressing, and other kinds of personal care, as well as
31 household tasks such as shopping and managing finances; and

1 WHEREAS, Seventy percent of people with Alzheimer’s disease
2 or a related disorder live at home and need assistance with activities
3 of daily living; and

4 WHEREAS, Testimony and data acquired during an Assembly
5 “Faces of Aging” hearing series in 2014, conducted by the
6 Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care, documented
7 variations in the way different populations respond to caregiving
8 needs and responsibilities, thus informing policymakers of specific
9 cultural competencies necessary to meet a diverse population’s
10 needs, as well as specific untapped resources and strategies that
11 could relieve caregiver stress; and

12 WHEREAS, It is critical to family caregivers for there to be a
13 state-led effort to compile an inventory of the resources available
14 to family caregivers, determine where access barriers in the current
15 system exist, and consider the cultural and linguistic factors that
16 impact caregivers and care recipients who are from diverse
17 populations; and

18 WHEREAS, Consistency of access across the counties is critical
19 for caregivers and the vulnerable population they serve, so the best
20 practices in California and in other states should be identified and
21 considered as means to improve caregiving programs; and

22 WHEREAS, Technology is a critical tool for family caregivers,
23 and the development of an internet Web site or portal that contains
24 information about California’s current resources and supports
25 available in the state’s family caregivers’ community will help
26 family caregivers better navigate current support services; and

27 WHEREAS, To successfully address the surging population of
28 older adults who have significant needs for long-term services and
29 supports, the state must develop methods to both encourage and
30 support families to assist their aging loved ones and develop ways
31 to recruit and retain a qualified, culturally competent, responsive
32 in-home care workforce; now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
34 *thereof concurring*, That the California Task Force on Family
35 Caregiving is hereby established, which shall consist of 20
36 members as follows:

37 (a) The Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate Committee on
38 Rules shall each appoint 10 members of the task force.

39 (b) These 20 members shall include some who have
40 demonstrated knowledge and expertise in any of the following:

- 1 (1) Family caregiving.
- 2 (2) Geriatric research.
- 3 (3) Alzheimer’s disease research.
- 4 (4) Senior advocacy; and be it further

5 *Resolved*, That the task force shall perform the following duties:

6 (a) Meet monthly to examine issues relative to the challenges
7 faced by family caregivers and opportunities to improve caregiver
8 support, review the current network and the services and supports
9 available to caregivers, and make policy recommendations to the
10 Legislature.

11 (b) Consult, as necessary, with a broad range of stakeholders,
12 including, but not limited to, family caregivers, community-based
13 and institutional providers, caregiving researchers and academics,
14 caregiver resource centers, and other state entities; and be it further

15 *Resolved*, That the task force is encouraged to partner, whenever
16 possible, with the California Commission on Aging in order to
17 link the efforts of the Legislature and the administration; and be
18 it further

19 *Resolved*, That state funds shall not be used to support task force
20 activities, but the task force may solicit and accept private funds
21 and in-kind donations from public and private foundations to pay
22 expenses incurred in conducting its business. These expenses
23 include, but are not limited to, staff, administrative, meeting, and
24 other expenses incurred by task force members in the performance
25 of their official duties; and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That the task force shall be subject to the
27 Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing with
28 Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of
29 the Government Code); and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the task force shall submit one or more reports
31 to the Legislature and to the Governor, including an interim report
32 no later than January 1, 2017, and a final report no later than July
33 1, 2018; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the task force is authorized to act until July 31,
35 2018; and be it further

36 *Resolved*, That members of the task force shall serve without
37 compensation, but shall receive reimbursement for travel and other
38 necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of their
39 official duties; and be it further

- 1 *Resolved*, That members of the task force shall be appointed to
- 2 serve for the duration of the task force; and be it further
- 3 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 4 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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