

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 2, 2015

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, 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

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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 *and disability* 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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