

AMENDED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 15, 2015

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

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~~ *meet, if a nonstate organization agrees to provide administrative support to the task force*, 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,

1 emotional, and financial cost to the caregivers, their families, and
2 to society; and

3 WHEREAS, Fifty-nine percent of all family caregivers are
4 employed full or part time and family caregivers typically spend
5 20 hours a week caring for a family member who needs help with
6 bathing, dressing, and other kinds of personal care, as well as
7 household tasks such as shopping and managing finances; and

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

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

19 WHEREAS, It is critical to family caregivers for there to be a
20 state-led effort to compile an inventory of the resources available
21 to family caregivers, determine where access barriers in the current
22 system exist, and consider the cultural and linguistic factors that
23 impact caregivers and care recipients who are from diverse
24 populations; and

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

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

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

1 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
2 *thereof concurring,* That the California Task Force on Family
3 Caregiving is hereby established, which shall consist of ~~20~~ 12
4 members as follows:

5 (a) The Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate Committee on
6 Rules shall each appoint ~~10~~ 6 members of the task force.

7 (b) These ~~20~~ 12 members shall include some who have
8 demonstrated knowledge and expertise in any of the following:

9 (1) Family caregiving.

10 (2) Geriatric research.

11 (3) Alzheimer's disease research.

12 (4) Senior and disability advocacy; and be it further

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

14 (a) ~~Meet monthly~~ to examine issues relative to the challenges
15 faced by family caregivers and opportunities to improve caregiver
16 support, review the current network and the services and supports
17 available to caregivers, and make policy recommendations to the
18 Legislature.

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

23 *Resolved,* That the task force is encouraged to partner, whenever
24 possible, with the California Commission on Aging in order to
25 link the efforts of the Legislature and the administration; and be
26 it further

27 ~~*Resolved,* That state funds shall not be used to support task force~~
28 ~~activities, but the task force may solicit and accept private funds~~
29 ~~and in-kind donations from public and private foundations to pay~~
30 ~~expenses incurred in conducting its business, as long as that support~~
31 ~~would not pose any conflict of interest. These expenses include,~~
32 ~~but are not limited to, staff, administrative, meeting, and other~~
33 ~~expenses incurred by task force members in the performance of~~
34 ~~their official duties; and be it further~~

35 RESOLVED, *That the task force shall convene, once members*
36 *have been appointed, if a non-state organization agrees to provide*
37 *administrative support to the task force; and be it further*

38 *Resolved,* That the task force shall be subject to the
39 Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing with

1 Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of
2 the Government Code); and be it further

3 *Resolved*, That the task force shall submit one or more reports
4 to the Legislature and to the Governor, including an interim report
5 no later than January 1, 2017, and a final report no later than July
6 1, 2018; and be it further

7 *Resolved*, That the task force is authorized to act until July 31,
8 2018; and be it further

9 ~~*Resolved*, That members of the task force shall serve without~~
10 ~~compensation, but shall receive reimbursement for travel and other~~
11 ~~necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of their~~
12 ~~official duties, to the extent that private funds are available; and~~
13 ~~be it further~~

14 *Resolved*, That members of the task force shall be appointed to
15 serve for the duration of the task force; and be it further

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