

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 64

Introduced by Assembly Member Santiago

May 5, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 64—Relative to Asthma Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 64, as introduced, Santiago. Asthma Awareness Month.

This measure would designate the month of May 2015 as Asthma Awareness Month in order to increase awareness and understanding about asthma and educate those with the disease on the treatments available and the methods of preventing attacks.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Approximately five million Californians have been
2 diagnosed with asthma at some point in their lives, and almost
3 three million currently have asthma; and

4 WHEREAS, Asthma is responsible for approximately 400
5 deaths, 35,000 hospital discharges, and 180,000 emergency
6 department visits annually in California; and

7 WHEREAS, Lifetime and current asthma prevalence is highest
8 among children 5 to 17 years of age and about 30 percent higher
9 than among adults; and

10 WHEREAS, Asthma prevalence is higher among African
11 Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Puerto Ricans,
12 European Hispanics, Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos; and

13 WHEREAS, Although people of all incomes have similar asthma
14 prevalence, people with lower incomes have more poorly controlled

1 asthma and higher rates of emergency department visits and
2 hospitalizations; and

3 WHEREAS, Asthma results in an estimated 11.8 million days
4 of work or usual activities missed per year among adults and 1.2
5 million days of school or day care missed per year among children;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, An estimated 19.4 percent of adults and 4.7 percent
8 of children with current asthma were uninsured at some point in
9 the past year; and

10 WHEREAS, Total charges for asthma hospitalizations in 2010
11 were over \$1 billion, and intervention to prevent repeat
12 hospitalizations could have saved \$156 million in these medical
13 costs; and

14 WHEREAS, It is important that every person with asthma be
15 diagnosed, receive appropriate treatment, learn how to manage his
16 or her asthma, and reduce exposure to environmental factors that
17 make his or her asthma worse; now, therefore, be it

18 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
19 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
20 month of May 2015 as Asthma Awareness Month in order to
21 increase awareness and understanding about asthma and educate
22 those with the disease on the treatments available and the methods
23 of preventing attacks; and be it further

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

O