

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 72

Introduced by Assembly Member Gipson

May 14, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 72—Relative to American Stroke Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 72, as introduced, Gipson. American Stroke Month.

This measure would declare May 2015 to be American Stroke Month in California, and would urge all Californians to familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with stroke, to recognize the warning signs and symptoms of stroke, and, at the first signs of a stroke, to dial 9-1-1 immediately in order to begin to reduce the devastating effects of strokes on our population.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term
2 disability and the fifth leading cause of death in the United States,
3 killing approximately 130,000 people nationwide and over 13,500
4 citizens of California each year; and
5 WHEREAS, Between 2012 and 2030, total annual direct
6 stroke-related medical costs are expected to increase from \$71.55
7 billion to \$184.13 billion, and overall, total annual costs of stroke
8 are projected to increase to \$240.67 billion by 2030, an increase
9 of 129 percent; and
10 WHEREAS, Nearly 80 million Americans have high blood
11 pressure, a major controllable risk factor for stroke, including 44

1 percent of African American adults, which is among the highest
2 prevalence of any population in the world; and

3 WHEREAS, More than one-half, or 58 percent, of Americans
4 do not know if they are at risk for stroke; and

5 WHEREAS, One in three Americans cannot recall any stroke
6 warning signs or symptoms; and

7 WHEREAS, The F.A.S.T. warning signs and symptoms of
8 stroke include face drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty and
9 time to call 9-1-1. Beyond F.A.S.T., additional stroke warning
10 signs and symptoms include sudden numbness or weakness of the
11 face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body, sudden
12 confusion, trouble speaking or understanding, sudden trouble
13 seeing in one or both eyes, sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss
14 of balance or coordination, and sudden severe headache with no
15 known cause; and

16 WHEREAS, On the American Stroke Month Day of Action
17 May 1, 2015, throughout May and year-round, the American Stroke
18 Association's "Together to End Stroke" initiative encourages
19 Americans to learn their personal stroke risk, memorize and share
20 the stroke warning signs, and call 9-1-1 at the first sign of a stroke;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been developed
23 to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effects of strokes,
24 but much more research is needed; now, therefore, be it

25 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
26 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares May 2015 to be
27 American Stroke Month in California; and be it further

28 *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges all Californians to
29 familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with stroke,
30 to recognize the warning signs and symptoms of stroke, and, at
31 the first signs of a stroke, to dial 9-1-1 immediately in order to
32 begin to reduce the devastating effects of strokes on our population;
33 and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
35 of this resolution to the author and to the Secretary of the Senate
36 for appropriate distribution.

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