

House Resolution

No. 60

Introduced by Assembly Member Arambula

August 1, 2016

House Resolution No. 60—Relative to National Health Center Week.

1 WHEREAS, Community clinics and health centers are at the
2 core of the nation’s health care safety net, serving anyone and
3 everyone who walks through their doors, regardless of ability to
4 pay, and are the medical homes for more than 23 million needy
5 and uninsured patients; and

6 WHEREAS, According to multiple government, academic, and
7 private studies, community clinics and health centers have proven
8 to be the most cost-effective health care providers in the field,
9 saving nearly \$24 billion annually by keeping patients out of
10 costlier health care settings, such as emergency rooms; and

11 WHEREAS, Community clinics and health centers are private,
12 nonprofit corporations. The majority of their boards of directors,
13 by law, must be their patients and consumers, and their services
14 are funded primarily through public programs such as Medicaid,
15 federal grants, and state initiatives; and

16 WHEREAS, Community clinics and health centers employ more
17 than 6,590 medical, dental, and behavioral health providers as part
18 of a multidisciplinary clinical team designed to treat the whole
19 patient by coordinating care and managing chronic disease, while
20 at the same time reducing unnecessary, avoidable, and wasteful
21 use of health resources; and

22 WHEREAS, Community clinics and health centers in California
23 and throughout the nation have led the movement for a fair and
24 equitable health care system, treating medically underserved

1 populations in medically underserved areas by reaching into the
2 inner city and the most rural and geographically isolated
3 communities; and

4 WHEREAS, In California, nearly six million low-income
5 families, children, seniors, women, non-English speakers, people
6 of color, and homeless individuals currently receive comprehensive
7 primary care services at over 1,100 community clinics and health
8 centers throughout the state; and

9 WHEREAS, Primary care at California community clinics and
10 health centers involves a wide range of services, including
11 preventive care, chronic disease management, well child, dental,
12 pharmaceutical, immunization, mental health, substance abuse,
13 breast cancer, nutrition, family planning, and pregnancy-related
14 services, all of which are provided with particular sensitivity to
15 language and cultural competency; and

16 WHEREAS, California's community clinics and health centers
17 have the major responsibility of providing health care services to
18 the state's most disadvantaged families and individuals, and are
19 serving over three million Californians enrolled in Medi-Cal, as
20 well as two million persons who remain uninsured; and

21 WHEREAS, California's and the nation's community clinics
22 and health centers deserve to be recognized and acknowledged for
23 their valuable services to their communities and the state, their
24 cost-effective delivery of primary health care services to the most
25 vulnerable populations, and their leadership in working for fair
26 and equitable health care reform; and

27 WHEREAS, National Health Center Week offers the opportunity
28 to recognize America's health centers, their dedicated staff and
29 board members, and all those responsible for the continued success
30 and growth of the program since its creation over 50 years ago.
31 During National Health Center Week, the legacy of America's
32 health centers and their vital role in shaping the future of America's
33 health care system is celebrated; now, therefore, be it

34 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the
35 Assembly hereby joins in proclaiming the week of August 7 to
36 August 13, 2016, inclusive, as National Health Center Week in
37 California; and be it further

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 2 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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