

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 4, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 114

**Introduced by Assembly Member Gallagher
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Lackey and Mathis)**

January 11, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 114—Relative to Grand Jury Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 114, as amended, Gallagher. Grand Jury Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of ~~February~~ *March* 2016 as Grand Jury Awareness Month in California, recognize those who volunteer in a grand jury, and encourage all Californians to learn about its role in the judicial system.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, California’s grand jury system is a unique
2 component of our state’s government. Present in each of our 58
3 counties, these juries consist of citizens selected by the superior
4 courts; and
5 WHEREAS, Our grand juries exist through the dedication of
6 the people, and they help to ensure that the accused are treated
7 fairly and that our local governments are maintaining the highest
8 legal standards; and
9 WHEREAS, Grand juries are used at the beginning of the legal
10 investigation process. These juries have three important functions:
11 (1) to decide whether there is probable cause that a criminal act
12 occurred and if there is enough evidence to indict a person; (2)

1 within ~~its~~ *their* civil jurisdiction, to oversee local governments;
2 and (3) to reserve the power to accuse public officers of
3 misconduct; and

4 WHEREAS, As gatekeepers of our justice system, grand juries
5 ensure that citizens have a role in the justice process and that the
6 justice process operates effectively; and

7 WHEREAS, The hard work done by our grand juries has a great
8 impact throughout our communities, and they have helped to make
9 California a better place; and

10 WHEREAS, These accomplishments can only be made through
11 the outstanding dedication of those who volunteer as grand jurors;
12 now, therefore, be it

13 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
14 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby proclaims the
15 month of ~~February~~ *March* 2016 as Grand Jury Awareness Month
16 in California; and be ~~it~~ *it* further

17 *Resolved*, That the Legislature recognizes those who volunteer
18 in a grand jury, encourages all Californians to learn about the great
19 role of the grand jury in the judicial system, and applauds those
20 who have made the grand jury so successful; and be it further

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