

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 114

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 22

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

[Filed with Secretary of State April 14, 2016.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 114, Gallagher. Grand Jury Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of 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.

WHEREAS, California's grand jury system is a unique component of our state's government. Present in each of our 58 counties, these juries consist of citizens selected by the superior courts; and

WHEREAS, Our grand juries exist through the dedication of the people, and they help to ensure that the accused are treated fairly and that our local governments are maintaining the highest legal standards; and

WHEREAS, Grand juries are used at the beginning of the legal investigation process. These juries have three important functions: (1) to decide whether there is probable cause that a criminal act occurred and if there is enough evidence to indict a person; (2) within their civil jurisdiction, to oversee local governments; and (3) to reserve the power to accuse public officers of misconduct; and

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

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

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

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

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

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