

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 19, 2015

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 42**

**Introduced by Senator Huff**

**(Coauthor: Senator Roth)**

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chávez, Kim, Lackey, and  
Ridley-Thomas)*

April 14, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 42—Relative to Voter Awareness Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 42, as amended, Huff. Voter Awareness Week.

This measure would proclaim the week of October 18 through October 24, 2015, as Voter Awareness Week.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The opportunity for all eligible people to register  
2 and to vote is essential to an effective democracy; and

3 WHEREAS, California's voter turnout among young adults is  
4 low compared to that of other states; it was only 41.6 percent in  
5 the 2012 presidential election; and

6 WHEREAS, Californians under the age of 25 increased their  
7 registration rates by 8 percent in 2012; and

8 WHEREAS, Young adults who are provided with practical  
9 information about voting feel more prepared to participate and  
10 become active, engaged citizens who will benefit California's  
11 political growth in the future; and

12 WHEREAS, While most youth voter outreach efforts target  
13 college students, there is a tremendous gap in registration and

1 turnout rates between young adults with college experience and  
2 those without; and

3 WHEREAS, Young adults are the best resource available to  
4 encourage other young adults to register and to vote; and

5 ~~WHEREAS, Vote America Now, the sponsor, promotes the~~  
6 ~~involvement of young adults in civic education opportunities,~~  
7 ~~activities, and discussions that can increase the likelihood that~~  
8 ~~others in their households will vote; and~~

9 WHEREAS, Involving young adults in civic education  
10 opportunities, activities, and discussion can increase the likelihood  
11 that others in their households will vote; and

12 WHEREAS, People who begin voting at a younger age are more  
13 likely to vote consistently later in life; and

14 WHEREAS, As young adults comprise a larger portion of the  
15 voting population than ~~the~~ baby boomers, it is necessary to  
16 encourage the youth of our state to participate in the democratic  
17 system in order to train and prepare the next generation of political  
18 and civic leaders; and

19 WHEREAS, California has the opportunity to boost registration  
20 rates among young adults through the use of its online voter  
21 registration application, launched in 2012, which young adults  
22 prefer to the traditional voter registration application; and

23 WHEREAS, A primary purpose of California's schools is to  
24 prepare students to become active citizens; and

25 WHEREAS, There is an ongoing need to increase youth civic  
26 participation; now, therefore, be it

27 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
28 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby proclaims the  
29 week of October 18 through 24, 2015, as Voter Awareness Week;  
30 and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourages all of California's  
32 public schools to participate in Voter Awareness Week activities;  
33 and be it further

1     *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
2 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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5     CORRECTIONS:

6     Text—Page 2.

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