

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 103**

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**Introduced by Senator Leyva**

**(Coauthors: Senators Allen, ~~Beall~~, Anderson, Beall, Block, Cannella, Fuller, Galgiani, Glazer, Hall, Hancock, Hernandez, Hertzberg, Jackson, Lara, Liu, McGuire, Mendoza, Mitchell, Monning, Nguyen, Pavley, Roth, Runner, Wieckowski, and Wolk)**

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members —Chávez Baker, Chávez, Dodd, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Kim, Lackey, Maienschein, and Mathis)**

January 28, 2016

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 103—Relative to teen dating and violence prevention.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 103, as amended, Leyva. Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of February 2016 as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, and would encourage all Californians to observe Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month with programs and activities that raise awareness about teen dating violence.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Teen dating violence, also known as dating abuse,
- 2 is a serious and growing problem throughout California; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Teen dating violence intervention and prevention
- 4 programs can help to ensure a positive school climate and safe
- 5 learning environment for all pupils, address warning signs of dating

1 violence among pupils before behaviors escalate, and protect the  
2 safety of targeted students; and

3 WHEREAS, Each year, an estimated one in 10 American  
4 teenagers is physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or *a*  
5 girlfriend; and

6 WHEREAS, According to the federal Centers for Disease  
7 Control and Prevention (CDC), nearly 10 percent of high school  
8 students have been hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by  
9 a boyfriend or *a* girlfriend in the past year; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the American Psychological  
11 Association, one in three teens ages 14 to 20 years of age have  
12 experienced dating abuse, and about the same number say they  
13 have committed dating abuse themselves; and

14 WHEREAS, According to the CDC, Dating Matters: Strategies  
15 to Promote Healthy Teen Relationships, one in four adolescents  
16 report verbal, emotional, physical, or sexual dating abuse each  
17 year; and

18 WHEREAS, Forty-three percent of LGBT teens reported  
19 experiencing physical dating violence, compared to 29 percent of  
20 heterosexual youth; and

21 WHEREAS, Fifty-nine percent of LGBT teens reported  
22 experiencing emotional abuse, compared to 46 percent of  
23 heterosexual youth; and

24 WHEREAS, Teen dating violence has been linked to other forms  
25 of violence and aggression against peers, including bullying, sexual  
26 harassment, sexual violence, and physical violence; and

27 WHEREAS, Twenty percent of students with mostly D and F  
28 grades have engaged in dating violence in the last year, while only  
29 6 percent of students with mostly A's have engaged in dating  
30 violence; and

31 WHEREAS, Victims of teen dating violence have increased  
32 risk for truancy, dropout, teen pregnancy, suicide, eating disorders,  
33 and engaging in other harmful behaviors, such as use of alcohol,  
34 tobacco, and other drugs; and

35 WHEREAS, Nearly one-half of students who experience dating  
36 violence have reported that some of the abuse took place on school  
37 grounds; and

38 WHEREAS, Victims of teen dating violence are also at increased  
39 risk for carrying a weapon to school, being threatened or injured  
40 with a weapon at school, and damaging school property; and

1 WHEREAS, Pupils who are victims in high school are at higher  
2 risk for victimization during college, and adolescent perpetrators  
3 of dating violence are more likely to abuse their intimate partners  
4 as adults; and

5 WHEREAS, The establishment of Teen Dating Violence  
6 Awareness and Prevention Month will benefit schools,  
7 communities, families, and all youth; now, therefore, be it

8 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
9 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature proclaims the month of  
10 February 2016 as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention  
11 Month, and supports communities to empower teens to develop  
12 healthy and violence-free relationships throughout their lives; and  
13 be it further

14 *Resolved,* That the Legislature calls upon the people of  
15 California, including schools, community groups, youth, and  
16 families, to observe Teen Dating Violence Awareness and  
17 Prevention Month with programs and activities that raise awareness  
18 about the dynamics of teen dating violence and support young  
19 people in learning the skills to have safe and healthy relationships.