

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 18, 2016

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 150**

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**Introduced by Senator Gaines**  
**(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Bates, Block, Hall, and**  
**Wieckowski)**

June 9, 2016

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 150—Relative to Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 150, as amended, Gaines. Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This measure would proclaim the month of October 2016, and each following October, as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is a significant public health  
2 and safety issue that affects women, men, and children of all racial,  
3 religious, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups in California; and  
4 WHEREAS, Nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused  
5 by an intimate partner, which means more than 10 million women  
6 and men in the United States are abused each year; and  
7 ~~WHEREAS, Women are four times more likely than men to be~~  
8 ~~victims of domestic violence with more than 800,000 women being~~  
9 ~~violently assaulted by an intimate partner between 2002 and 2011~~  
10 ~~according to United States Department of Justice statistics. Of all~~  
11 ~~murder-suicides, 72 percent involve an intimate partner and 94~~  
12 ~~percent of the victims of these crimes are female; and~~  
13 *WHEREAS, More than 800,000 women were violently assaulted*  
14 *by an intimate partner between 2002 and 2011, according to*

1 *statistics from the United States Department of Justice. Of all*  
2 *murder-suicides, 72 percent involve an intimate partner; and*

3 WHEREAS, California law enforcement agencies received over  
4 150,000 domestic violence-related calls in 2014, including reports  
5 of more than 100 domestic violence-related homicides. There are  
6 more than 20,000 additional phone calls placed each day to  
7 domestic violence hotlines nationwide; and

8 WHEREAS, A victim is not alone in suffering the impacts of  
9 domestic violence. Studies indicate that children who witness  
10 domestic violence experience long-term consequences, such as  
11 difficulty at school, substance abuse, and serious adult health  
12 problems, as well as an increased risk of becoming a domestic  
13 violence victim or abuser as an adult; and

14 WHEREAS, Because 75 percent of domestic violence victims  
15 have children at home under ~~the age of 18~~, *18 years of age*, the  
16 impact of domestic abuse has both immediate and generational  
17 effects. In 2011, nearly 21 percent of children in the United States  
18 were exposed to domestic violence, either as victims or indirectly  
19 as witnesses, illustrating the magnitude of this problem; and

20 WHEREAS, The cost of domestic violence exceeds \$5.8 billion  
21 each year in the United States—\$4.1 billion in direct medical and  
22 health care services and nearly \$1.8 billion in lost productivity,  
23 which includes approximately 8,000,000 days of work lost by  
24 abused women each year—equivalent to more than 32,000 full-time  
25 jobs; and

26 WHEREAS, Domestic violence programs in California provide  
27 essential, lifesaving services to nearly 6,000 victims and their  
28 children each day as they flee violence. Overall, state-funded  
29 domestic violence programs provide individual counseling to an  
30 average of nearly 34,000 victims each year; and

31 WHEREAS, Despite recent reductions in domestic violence  
32 incidents, there is an ongoing need to educate the public about  
33 domestic violence and to provide all victims access to programs  
34 and services; and

35 WHEREAS, The Legislature recognizes the vital role that all  
36 Californians can play in preventing, and one day ending, domestic  
37 violence; now, therefore, be it

38 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
39 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes October 2016,

- 1 and each following October, as Domestic Violence Awareness
- 2 Month; and be it further
- 3 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
- 4 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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