

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 55

Adopted in Assembly May 15, 2000

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Adopted in Senate June 8, 2000

Secretary of the Senate

This resolution was received by the Secretary of
State this _____ day of _____, 2000,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Deputy Secretary of State



RESOLUTION CHAPTER _____

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 55—Relative to hemophilia relief.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 55, Runner. Hemophilia relief.

This measure would memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to fully fund the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund, and would urge the President and Congress of the United States to withhold the appropriation of funds to programs that have not clearly disclosed to the consumer the risks of infection for a product the program manufactures or distributes.

WHEREAS, The Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-369) was enacted by Congress to provide for compassionate payments to individuals with blood-clotting disorders, such as hemophilia, who contracted the human immunodeficiency virus due to contaminated blood products; and

WHEREAS, In its review of the events surrounding the HIV infection of thousands of people with blood-clotting disorders, such as hemophilia, a 1995 study, entitled "HIV and the Blood Supply," of the Institute of Medicine found a failure of leadership and an inadequate institutional decisionmaking process in the system responsible for ensuring blood safety, concluding that a failure of leadership led to less than effective donor screening, weak regulatory actions, and insufficient communication to patients about the risk of AIDS; and

WHEREAS, It is important for both the federal and state government to halt immediately the funding of a product or program if they become aware of a risk of infection when using the product and have not informed the public; and

WHEREAS, This legislation, named after a teenage hemophiliac who died from AIDS, was enacted to provide financial relief to the families of hemophiliacs who were



devastated by the federal government's policy failure in its handling of the AIDS epidemic; and

WHEREAS, Although the relief bill has been enacted into law, Congress has been reluctant to fund it; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California respectfully memorializes the President and the Congress of the United States to fully fund the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund, enacted into law under the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act of 1998, so that there is no delay between the authorization and the timely appropriation of this relief; and be it further

Resolved, That the President and the Congress of the United States are respectfully urged to withhold the appropriation of funds to programs that have not clearly disclosed to the consumer the risks of infection for a product the program manufactures or distributes; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.



Attest:

Secretary of State

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