

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 13, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005—06 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 2

Introduced by Assembly Member Cohn
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Negrete McLeod)
(Principal coauthor: Senator Alquist)

December 6, 2004

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2—Relative to Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 2, as amended, Cohn. Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of October 2005 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Home should be a place of warmth,
2 unconditional love, and security; however, for many Americans,
3 home is tainted with violence and fear; and

4 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is much more than the
5 occasional family dispute; and

6 WHEREAS, According to the Surgeon General, United States
7 Public Health Service, domestic violence is a societal problem of
8 epidemic proportions; and

9 WHEREAS, According to experts, between 2 and 4 million
10 American women are battered every year, and between 3.3 and
11 10 million children witness violence in their homes; and

12 WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of
13 Labor, 1,000,000 people are assaulted and injured every year as a
14 result of workplace violence, 1,000 people are killed every year

1 due to workplace violence, and 30 percent of battered women
2 lose their jobs due to harassment at work by abusive husbands
3 and boyfriends; and

4 WHEREAS, Battering affects families across America in all
5 socioeconomic, racial, and ethnic groups; and

6 WHEREAS, More than one-half of the number of women in
7 need of shelter from an abusive environment may be turned away
8 from a shelter due to a lack of space; and

9 WHEREAS, Women are not the only targets of domestic
10 violence: young children, elderly persons, and men are also
11 victims in their own homes; and

12 WHEREAS, Emotional, physical, and psychological scars are
13 often permanent; and

14 WHEREAS, A coalition of organizations has emerged to
15 confront this crisis directly. Law enforcement agencies, domestic
16 violence hotlines, battered women and childrens' shelters, health
17 care providers, faith-based organizations, the courts, and the
18 volunteers that serve those entities are helping in the effort to end
19 domestic violence; and

20 WHEREAS, It is important to recognize the compassion and
21 dedication of the individuals involved in that effort, applaud their
22 commitment, and increase public understanding of this
23 significant problem; and

24 WHEREAS, The first Day of Unity was celebrated in October
25 1981 and was sponsored by the National Coalition Against
26 Domestic Violence for the purpose of uniting battered womens'
27 advocates across the nation in an effort to end domestic violence;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, That one day has grown into a month of activities
30 at all levels of government, aimed at creating awareness about
31 the problem and presenting solutions; and

32 WHEREAS, The first Domestic Violence Awareness Month
33 was proclaimed in October 1987; now, therefore, be it

34 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
35 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby proclaims the
36 month of October 2005 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month;
37 and be it further

38 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit a
39 copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the
40 Governor of the State of California, the Director of the United

- 1 States Department of Health and Human Services, and to each
- 2 Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of
- 3 the United States.

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