

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 99**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Swanson**

February 14, 2008

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 99—Relative to school nurses.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 99, as introduced, Swanson. School nurses: salaries.

This measure would urge school districts to take the necessary steps to increase school nurse salaries to a level comparable to the salaries received by nurses employed by hospitals and clinics.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, California's credentialed school nurses are pivotal  
2 members of a coordinated public school health system, delivering  
3 services to children and thereby eliminating health disparities and  
4 barriers and supporting academic success for all children; and  
5 WHEREAS, School nurses provide vital links between public  
6 and private resources and programs; collaboration between schools  
7 and health and human services agencies to bring school and  
8 community services to schools; and support efforts to connect  
9 families to insurance programs to meet the needs of children and  
10 families; and  
11 WHEREAS, In addition to providing valuable health care  
12 services to pupils, school nurses perform duties as health managers,  
13 managing treatment and medication for pupils with a variety of  
14 ailments, including, but not limited to, attention deficit disorder,  
15 diabetes, and asthma; and

1 WHEREAS, When children dealing with serious medical  
2 conditions such as cancers, transplants, seizures, and cardiac  
3 conditions are released from the hospital, school nurses provide  
4 vital services by reintegrating the sick children back into the  
5 general population of the school; and

6 WHEREAS, There is a severe shortage of California school  
7 nurses, with only one school nurse per 4,000 pupils, a ratio that  
8 fails to meet federal standards of one school nurse per 750 pupils;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, School nurses are paid a salary of approximately  
11 \$20,000 less than nurses employed by hospitals or clinics; and

12 WHEREAS, In order to encourage nurses to seek employment  
13 by public schools, as well as to retain nurses already employed by  
14 public schools, it is vital that salaries are increased for school  
15 nurses; now, therefore, be it

16 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
17 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby urges school  
18 districts to take the steps necessary to increase school nurse salaries  
19 to a level comparable to salaries of nurses employed by hospitals  
20 and clinics; and be it further

21 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
22 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.