

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 17, 2012

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 8, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 139

Introduced by Assembly Member Beall

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Ammiano, Block, Eng, Gatto, Hagman, Hall, Harkey, Hill, Logue, Mitchell, Olsen, Pan, Solorio, ~~and Williams~~ Williams, Achadjian, Alejo, Allen, Atkins, Bill Berryhill, Blumenfield, Bonilla, Bradford, Brownley, Buchanan, Butler, Charles Calderon, Campos, Carter, Cedillo, Chesbro, Conway, Cook, Davis, Dickinson, Donnelly, Feuer, Fong, Fuentes, Furutani, Beth Gaines, Garrick, Gordon, Gorell, Grove, Halderman, Roger Hernández, Huber, Hueso, Jeffries, Jones, Lara, Ma, Mansoor, Mendoza, Miller, Monning, Morrell, Nestande, Nielsen, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Portantino, Silva, Smyth, Swanson, Torres, Valadao, Wagner, and Wieckowski)

(Coauthors: Senators Cannella, De León, DeSaulnier, Fuller, Hancock, Liu, Runner, Strickland, Wolk, and Wright)

March 22, 2012

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 139—Relative to Foster Care Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 139, as amended, Beall. Foster Care Month.

This measure would designate May 2012 as Foster Care Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Progress can be measured by the opportunities we
2 pass on to our children. For the youth in foster care across our
3 state, we can give them the chance to have a safe, permanent,
4 loving home where they can feel secure and thrive; and

5 WHEREAS, California has the largest foster care population of
6 any state, and most children in foster care are removed from their
7 parents by the county child welfare departments, in conjunction
8 with juvenile dependency courts, for a variety of reasons including
9 abuse, abandonment, or neglect; and

10 WHEREAS, During 2011, California's foster care system
11 provided for the care of approximately 55,000 children on average
12 each day; and

13 WHEREAS, By October of 2011, 5,342 children were adopted
14 and 2,056 children obtained guardianship; and

15 WHEREAS, In recent years, more than one-half of the children
16 leaving foster care returned to their families; and

17 WHEREAS, Each year, approximately 4,000 to 5,000 foster
18 youth reach the age of 18 in the foster care system without ever
19 being adopted by, or finding permanency with, a family that loves,
20 nurtures, protects, and guides them; and

21 WHEREAS, Children "aging out" of foster care need and
22 deserve a support system as they work to secure affordable housing,
23 pursue higher education, and acquire adequate employment; and

24 WHEREAS, During Foster Care Month, we recognize the efforts
25 of California's adoptive and foster families, relative caregivers,
26 social workers, local governments, faith-based and community
27 organizations, and others that are improving the lives of young
28 people in foster care, and encourage all Californians to partake in
29 efforts to serve these children in the year ahead; now, therefore,
30 be it

31 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
32 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the month of
33 May 2012 as Foster Care Month in California and encourages the
34 people of the State of California to work together to ensure a
35 brighter future for foster youth; and be it further

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

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