
Introduced by Senator Liu

May 2, 2011

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 44—Relative to Foster Care Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 44, as introduced, Liu. Foster Care Month 2011.

This Measure would designate the month of May 2011 as Foster Care Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, All children need and deserve to feel love, a sense
2 of belonging, and the continuity of family and loved ones to support
3 and guide them in their growth and development; and
4 WHEREAS, This need is especially urgent for California's
5 60,000 children in foster care, who have experienced the trauma
6 of neglect, abuse, and separation from family and loved ones; and
7 WHEREAS, Thanks to the focus and commitment of
8 Californians working in public and private organizations in child
9 welfare, probation, mental health, public health, education, and
10 the courts, and the extraordinary commitment of those who open
11 their homes and work with jurisdictions to meet the needs of foster
12 youth for safety, permanency, and well-being, more of California's
13 youth are able to live and grow up with the support of permanent,
14 caring families; and
15 WHEREAS, In recent years, California has made great strides
16 in attaining permanency for thousands of children and youth in
17 foster care; and

1 WHEREAS, Throughout the state, children and youth are
2 benefiting from a focus by child welfare jurisdictions on creating
3 permanent family connections from the moment a child enters
4 child welfare supervised care; and

5 WHEREAS, During 2009 2010, almost 60 percent, about 19,170,
6 of the children leaving foster care were returned to their families;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, For those children and youth who could not safely
9 return to their own families, we celebrate that over 6,457 were
10 adopted during that period and almost 3,000 attained permanence
11 through guardianship with relatives or other adults; and

12 WHEREAS, We also continue to be concerned for the numerous
13 teens that age out of the foster care system without the safety net
14 of a permanent family, and look forward with hope to the full
15 implementation of Assembly Bill 12 (Ch. 559, Stats. 2010) and
16 its promise of care until 21 years of age for foster youth who attain
17 majority while in care; now, therefore, be it

18 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
19 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the month of
20 May 2011 as Foster Care Month in California; and be it further

21 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
22 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.