

Introduced by Senator DeSaulnier

June 11, 2011

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 47—Relative to Health in All Policies.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 47, as introduced, DeSaulnier. Health in All Policies.

This measure would, among other things, request that the Strategic Growth Council and the member agencies, departments, and offices of the Health in All Policies Task Force, as established by Executive Order S-04-10, provide leadership on implementing the recommendations put forth in the Health in All Policies Task Force Report and would encourage interdepartmental collaboration with an emphasis on the complex environmental factors that contribute to poor health and inequities when developing policies.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, California and its residents face a growing burden
- 2 of largely preventable chronic illnesses such as heart disease,
- 3 stroke, obesity, and diabetes; and
- 4 WHEREAS, People in disadvantaged communities often have
- 5 fewer resources for health, which is reflected in significantly higher
- 6 burdens of chronic illness, worse health outcomes, and shorter life
- 7 expectancies; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The health and well-being of all people is a critical
- 9 element in supporting a healthy and prosperous California,
- 10 including economic sustainability, increasing workforce
- 11 participation and productivity, and slowing the ongoing rise in
- 12 medical care expenditures; and

1 WHEREAS, The physical, economic, and social environments
2 in which people live, learn, work, and play influence the adoption
3 of healthy lifestyles, by making it more or less difficult for
4 individuals to choose behaviors that promote or diminish health;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, These environments are significantly influenced
7 by policies developed by various state agencies and departments
8 relating to housing, transportation, education, air quality, parks,
9 criminal justice, employment, and other policy areas; and

10 WHEREAS, Public health agencies alone cannot change these
11 environments, but must work collaboratively with the many other
12 governmental agencies, businesses, and community-based
13 organizations that are best positioned to create healthy
14 communities; and

15 WHEREAS, Strategies to create healthy communities create
16 cobenefits by simultaneously supporting state goals of improving
17 air and water quality, protecting natural resources and agricultural
18 lands, increasing the availability of affordable housing, improving
19 infrastructure systems, planning sustainable communities, and
20 addressing climate change; and

21 WHEREAS, Health in All Policies is an integrated approach
22 that is being used internationally and in California to achieve better
23 health outcomes and greater sustainability by incorporating a health
24 aspect into policy development across all government sectors; and

25 WHEREAS, The Health in All Policies approach uses health
26 as a linking factor in bringing people together from across sectors
27 to address major societal issues, focuses on cobenefits and win-win
28 strategies, and harnesses the power that agencies and departments
29 can bring through their areas of individual expertise; and

30 WHEREAS, California's Health in All Policies Task Force was
31 established by Executive Order S-04-10 on February 23, 2010,
32 under the auspices of the Strategic Growth Council; and

33 WHEREAS, The Health in All Policies Task Force, which
34 includes representatives from 19 state agencies, departments, and
35 offices, developed a broad-ranging set of recommendations geared
36 at improving the efficiency, cost effectiveness, and collaborative
37 nature of state government, while promoting health and other goals
38 of the Strategic Growth Council; now, therefore be it

39 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
40 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature requests that the Strategic

1 Growth Council and the member agencies, departments, and offices
2 of the Health in All Policies Task Force provide leadership on
3 implementing the recommendations put forth in the Health in All
4 Policies Task Force Report; and be it further

5 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourages interdepartmental
6 collaboration with an emphasis on the complex environmental
7 factors that contribute to poor health and inequities when
8 developing policies in a wide variety of areas, including, but not
9 limited to, housing, transportation, education, air quality, parks,
10 criminal justice, and employment; and be it further

11 *Resolved*, That the Legislature consider both short- and
12 long-term health impacts, costs, and benefits, where appropriate,
13 when weighing the merits of proposed legislation; and be it further

14 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourages public officials in all
15 sectors and levels of government to recognize that health is
16 influenced by policies related to air and water quality, natural
17 resources and agricultural land, affordable housing, infrastructure
18 systems, public health, sustainable communities, and climate
19 change, and to consider health when formulating policy; and be it
20 further

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