

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 91

Introduced by Senator Runner

(Coauthors: Senators Alquist, Anderson, Berryhill, Blakeslee, Calderon, Cannella, Corbett, Correa, De León, DeSaulnier, Dutton, Emerson, Evans, Fuller, Gaines, Hancock, Harman, Hernandez, Huff, Kehoe, La Malfa, Leno, Lieu, Liu, Lowenthal, Negrete McLeod, Padilla, Pavley, Price, Rubio, Simitian, Steinberg, Strickland, Vargas, Walters, Wolk, Wright, Wyland, and Yee)

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

May 17, 2012

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 91—Relative to Scleroderma Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 91, as amended, Runner. Scleroderma Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim June 2012 as Scleroderma Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Scleroderma is a chronic, disabling autoimmune
2 disease in which the body's soft tissues contract and harden from
3 an overproduction of collagen; and

4 WHEREAS, Scleroderma can affect many parts of the body
5 including skin, internal organs, and blood vessels; and

6 WHEREAS, Scleroderma sufferers often experience damage
7 to the heart, lungs, kidneys, and the gastrointestinal tract; and

8 WHEREAS, Scleroderma is associated with many other
9 conditions including pulmonary hypertension, gastroparesis,
10 Raynaud's phenomenon, Sjögren's syndrome, and lupus; and

11 WHEREAS, Choctaw Native Americans, African Americans,
12 and Hispanics are disproportionately affected by scleroderma; and

13 WHEREAS, Researchers have yet to identify the exact cause
14 or causes of scleroderma; and

15 WHEREAS, An estimated 300,000 Americans suffer from
16 scleroderma, and 80 percent of those are women; and

17 WHEREAS, The estimated total economic impact of
18 scleroderma treatment is estimated to be in excess of \$1.5 billion
19 annually; and

20 WHEREAS, There is a significant need for further research
21 focusing on the epidemiology of scleroderma to increase
22 understanding of the causes of the disease and its treatment; and

23 WHEREAS, The United States Congress has recognized the
24 need to raise awareness of the impact of scleroderma on public
25 health and has designated June as National Scleroderma Awareness
26 Month; and

27 WHEREAS, California should also designate a month as
28 Scleroderma Awareness Month to help educate the public about
29 autoimmune diseases and the need for increased research, funding,
30 and effective treatments for those diseases; and

31 WHEREAS, The designation of such a month would recognize
32 the efforts of health care providers, patients, and scleroderma
33 advocacy organizations to raise awareness of scleroderma and of
34 the need for increased research on scleroderma; and

35 WHEREAS, June 2012 would be an appropriate month to
36 designate as Scleroderma Awareness Month; now, therefore, be
37 it

1 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
2 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature proclaims the month of
3 June 2012 as Scleroderma Awareness Month; and be it further
4 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
5 the resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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