

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 110

Introduced by Assembly Member Fox

February 21, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 110—Relative to Health Care District Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 110, as introduced, Fox. Health Care District Month.

This measure would recognize the essential role that health care districts have in the State of California and proclaims the month of May 2014 as Health Care District Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Health care districts are public entities that provide
2 community-based health care services to residents throughout the
3 state; and
4 WHEREAS, Health care districts were created after World War
5 II to address a shortage of access to acute hospital care for many
6 areas of the state, particularly the rural areas of California; and
7 WHEREAS, The first health care district was formed in 1946
8 and the first district hospital opened in 1947. Today, there are 78
9 health care districts in California, and 41 health care districts
10 currently operate 43 district hospitals. Their primary mission has
11 not changed, which is to provide health care services to the
12 communities that created them; and
13 WHEREAS, District hospitals account for 28 of the state’s rural
14 hospitals and 20 of the state’s critical access hospitals; and

1 WHEREAS, District hospitals provided \$54 million in
2 uncompensated care, and offered financial support to community
3 programs focused on the health and well-being of the children and
4 adults in the health care districts; and

5 WHEREAS, Fifty health care districts operate in either a health
6 professional shortage area, a medically underserved area, or a
7 medically underserved population area; and

8 WHEREAS, Health care districts collectively provide a wide
9 range of services, which include acute care, emergency care, skilled
10 nursing and long-term care, community and rural health clinics,
11 ambulance services, adult day care, senior housing and nutritional
12 support, chronic disease management, health education, medical
13 transportation, home health, and hospice; and

14 WHEREAS, Health care districts provide services in 40 counties,
15 employ over 32,000 employees, and handle more than 4,000,000
16 patient visits annually; and

17 WHEREAS, Health care districts are formed by the will of the
18 people, with board members locally elected and accountable to
19 their communities. The health care districts are often supported in
20 part by local tax dollars in order to improve community health;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Health care districts serve as an integral part of
23 the “safety net” for the state’s underinsured and uninsured
24 residents. In 2012, health care districts treated just over 1 million
25 Medi-Cal beneficiaries, which represents 10 percent of the
26 statewide total of Medi-Cal beneficiaries; and

27 WHEREAS, Each health care district is uniquely tailored to the
28 specific needs of the community. Each health care district focuses
29 on the specific needs of the community in order to ensure that
30 necessary, quality health care services are being provided to the
31 community; now, therefore, be it

32 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
33 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes the essential
34 role that health care districts have in the State of California and
35 proclaims the month of May 2014 as Health Care District Month
36 in California; and be it further

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

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