

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 111

Introduced by Assembly Member Levine

February 24, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 111—Relative to Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 111, as introduced, Levine. Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

This measure would designate the month of March 2014 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of
2 cancer deaths in California, with 14,255 new cases and 5,2655
3 deaths expected in 2014; and
4 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is treatable, curable, and in many
5 cases, completely preventable; and
6 WHEREAS, When colorectal cancers are detected at an early
7 stage, survival is 95 percent; and
8 WHEREAS, There were approximately one million colorectal
9 cancer survivors in the United States in 2002; and
10 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is known as a silent killer because
11 symptoms only show up in the later stages of the disease; and
12 WHEREAS, With proper screening, colorectal cancer can be
13 prevented or, if found early, treated and cured; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2012, only 51 percent of California adults 50
2 years and older had received colorectal cancer screening according
3 to the guidelines; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the United States Preventative
5 Services Task Force, access to appropriate use of colorectal cancer
6 screening tests, such as colonoscopy, sigmoidoscopy, and fecal
7 occult blood test (FOBT)/fecal immunochemical test (FIT), could
8 reduce death rates of colon cancer up to 66 percent; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, in
10 2011, only about 43 percent of colorectal cancers were diagnosed
11 at an early, more treatable and curable stage; and

12 WHEREAS, The uninsured, underinsured, and underserved are
13 least likely to get screening for colorectal cancer, which means
14 they are more likely to be diagnosed at a late stage when chances
15 of survival drop to 13 percent; and

16 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer screening is one of the most
17 cost-effective prevention measures in health care, more
18 cost-effective than breast or prostate cancer screening; and

19 WHEREAS, African Americans have the highest colorectal
20 cancer incidence and mortality rates of all racial groups in this
21 country; and

22 WHEREAS, In California, colorectal cancer is the second most
23 common cancer among Korean, Hispanic, Japanese, South Asian,
24 Kampuchean, and Hmong men, and the second most common
25 cancer among Chinese, Filipino, Hispanic, Japanese, Korean,
26 Laotian, Vietnamese, and Kampuchean women; and

27 WHEREAS, The California Colorectal Cancer Coalition (C4)
28 is a nonprofit organization established to increase colorectal cancer
29 screening rates in an effort to decrease mortality associated with
30 the disease, and implement strategies to reduce disparities in
31 colorectal cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment among
32 underserved populations in California; and

33 WHEREAS, The California Colorectal Cancer Coalition (C4)
34 encourages Californians to discuss the colorectal cancer screening
35 test that is best for them with their doctors and believes that the
36 best test is the one you have done; now, therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
38 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the month of
39 March 2014 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month; and be it
40 further

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 2 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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