

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 3, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 99

Introduced by Senators Beall and Steinberg

**(Coauthors: Senators Block, Correa, De León, Fuller, Gaines, Huff,
Lara, Leno, Padilla, Pavley, and Wolk)**

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Allen, Buchanan, Campos, Cooley,
Dickinson, Logue, Mansoor, Muratsuchi, and Nazarian)*

March 10, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 99—Relative to Autism Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 99, as amended, Beall.

This measure would designate April 2014 as Autism Awareness Month and would encourage residents to show support for autism awareness by lighting their homes, businesses, schools, and places of worship with blue light bulbs.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Autism is a pervasive developmental disorder
- 2 affecting the social, communication, and behavioral skills of those
- 3 affected by it; and
- 4 WHEREAS, More children are being diagnosed on the autism
- 5 spectrum than ever before with diagnoses as high as one in 88
- 6 children nationally, and one in 54 boys; and
- 7 WHEREAS, There is no cure for autism, but it is
- 8 well-documented that if individuals with autism receive treatment
- 9 early in their lives, it is often possible for those individuals to lead
- 10 significantly improved lives; and

1 WHEREAS, Individuals with autism often require a lifetime of
2 specialized and community support services to ensure their health
3 and safety, and to support families' resilience as they manage the
4 psychological and financial burdens autism presents; and

5 WHEREAS, Autism Speaks and autism services providers
6 throughout the state are organizing the Light it Up Blue campaign
7 and Autism Awareness Day in order to educate parents,
8 professionals, and the general public about autism and its impact;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, In support of the Light it Up Blue campaign, nearly
11 3,000 iconic structures and landmarks, including the Empire State
12 Building in New York City and the Sydney Opera House in
13 Australia, in more than 600 United States cities and 70 countries
14 will shine a light on autism as a growing public health crisis by
15 being illuminated with blue light; now, therefore, be it

16 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
17 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates April 2014 as
18 Autism Awareness Month and encourages residents to show
19 support for autism awareness by lighting their homes, businesses,
20 schools, and places of worship with blue light bulbs during the
21 month of April; and be it further

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