

Introduced by Senator Fuller

April 1, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 106—Relative to Chiari Malformation Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 106, as introduced, Fuller. Chiari Malformation Awareness Month.

This measure would declare the month of September 2014 as Chiari Malformation Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Chiari Malformation is a serious neurological
2 disorder affecting more than 300,000 people in the United States.
3 It was first identified by Austrian pathologist Professor Hans Chiari
4 in the 1890's and categorized into four types in order of severity;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Chiari Malformation is a congenital malformation
7 in which the bottom of the brain, known as the cerebellum, is
8 crowded in the skull cavity and forces the lower tips of the
9 cerebellar hemispheres, or tonsils, into the hole in the bottom of
10 the skull, or foramen magnum; and

11 WHEREAS, Chiari Malformations are defects in the cerebellum,
12 the part of the brain that controls balance. This creates pressure
13 on the cerebellum and brain stem and may block the normal flow
14 of cerebral spinal fluid to and from the brain; and

15 WHEREAS, Symptoms usually appear during adolescence or
16 early adulthood and can include severe head and neck pain, vertigo,

1 muscle weakness, balance problems, blurred or double vision,
2 difficulty swallowing, and sleep apnea; and

3 WHEREAS, Individuals who have Chiari Malformation may
4 often have related conditions, such as hydrocephalus, spina bifida,
5 syringomyelia, tethered spinal cord syndrome, and spinal curvature;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The National Institute of Neurological Disorders
8 and Stroke of the National Institute of Health is conducting research
9 to find alternative surgical options and identify the cause of Chiari
10 Malformations to create improved treatment and prevention plans;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
13 *thereof concurring*, That the California Legislature declares
14 September 2014 as Chiari Malformation Awareness Month; and
15 be it further

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