

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 51

Adopted in Assembly April 26, 2001

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Adopted in Senate May 21, 2001

Secretary of the Senate

This resolution was received by the Secretary of State this _____ day of _____, 2001, at _____ o'clock __M.

Deputy Secretary of State



RESOLUTION CHAPTER _____

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 51—Relative to Parents Anonymous, Inc.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 51, Negrete McLeod. Parents Anonymous, Inc.

This measure would commend Parents Anonymous, Inc., for its commitment to strengthening families, preventing child abuse, child neglect, and juvenile delinquency for more than 30 years in California and other states.

WHEREAS, April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and all Californians need to be made aware of the myriad problems associated with child abuse; and

WHEREAS, Parents Anonymous, Inc., was founded in California in 1970 and is the oldest child abuse prevention and treatment program dedicated to strengthening families; and

WHEREAS, Each year, tens of thousands of parents and their children create long-term positive changes for their families and develop leadership skills to help others through the weekly, mutual support groups of Parents Anonymous; and

WHEREAS, Research confirms that strengthening families is the key to preventing juvenile delinquency; and

WHEREAS, Recent psychological research highlights the importance of positive parent-child interaction during the first three years of life, further supporting early intervention program to prevent child maltreatment, juvenile delinquency, and other social problems; and

WHEREAS, Research demonstrates that child abuse and neglect are often a precursor to delinquent and adult criminal behavior, and also shows that children who are abused or neglected are 40 percent more likely to engage in delinquency or adult criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect reports have increased at an alarming rate and child protective services is unable to adequately respond to this crisis; and

WHEREAS, Effective child abuse prevention programs that make child safety a priority by encouraging families to seek help



early are needed at the community level, and Parents Anonymous, Inc., is such a program, and should be fostered and encouraged; and

WHEREAS, Parents Anonymous, Inc., has provided specialized program materials, extensive technical assistance, certified training, a new children's program, best practices strategies, and parent leadership training; and

WHEREAS, In 1997, Parents Anonymous, Inc., was selected by the United States Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) as a national model proven to strengthen families and so to prevent juvenile delinquency, and in partnership with the OJJDP is expanding in select neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, The OJJDP has produced a special publication on Parents Anonymous, Inc., and has committed to funding a new national outcome study; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of its status as the oldest child abuse and neglect prevention program in America, the United States Congress highlighted only Parents Anonymous, Inc., in the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act of 1996 as an effective program that strengthens families in partnership with communities; and

WHEREAS, Congress also has recognized the expertise of Parents Anonymous, Inc., to train parent leaders in collaboration with professionals, government agencies and community-based organization to more effectively address the needs of families; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature commends Parents Anonymous, Inc., for its commitment to strengthening families, preventing child abuse, child neglect, and juvenile delinquency for more than 30 years in California and other states in spite of limited resources; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature extends to Parents Anonymous, Inc., its best wishes for continued success; and be it further

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



Attest:

Secretary of State

