

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 5, 2002

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001–02 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 230

Introduced by Assembly Member Ashburn

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aanestad, Alquist, Aroner, Bates, Bogh, Calderon, Bill Campbell, John Campbell, Canciamilla, Cardenas, Cardoza, Chan, Chavez, Chu, Cogdill, Cohn, Corbett, Correa, Cox, Daucher, Diaz, Dickerson, Firebaugh, Florez, Frommer, Goldberg, Harman, Havice, Hertzberg, Hollingsworth, Jackson, Keeley, Kehoe, Kelley, La Suer, Leach, Leonard, Leslie, Liu, Longville, Lowenthal, Maddox, Maldonado, Matthews, Migden, Mountjoy, Nakano, Nation, Oropeza, Robert Pacheco, Rod Pacheco, Papan, Pavley, Pescetti, Reyes, Richman, Runner, Salinas, Shelley, Simitian, Steinberg, Strickland, Strom–Martin, Thomson, Vargas, Washington, Wayne, Wesson, Wiggins, Wright, Wyland, Wyman, and Zettel.)

June 30, 2002

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 230—Relative to Valley Fever Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 230, as amended, Ashburn. Valley Fever Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim August 2002 as Valley Fever Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Valley fever (coccidioidomycosis), a progressive,
- 2 multisymptom, respiratory disorder, is a debilitating disease; and

1 WHEREAS, It is caused by the inhalation of tiny airborne fungi
2 that live in soil, but are released into the air by soil disturbance or
3 wind; and
4 WHEREAS, Valley fever attacks the respiratory system causing
5 infection that can lead to symptoms that resemble a cold,
6 influenza, or pneumonia-like symptoms; and
7 WHEREAS, Left untreated or mistreated, infection can spread
8 from the lungs into the bloodstream causing inflammation to the
9 skin, permanent damage to lung and bone tissue, and swelling of
10 the membrane surrounding the brain leading to meningitis, which
11 can be devastating and even fatal; and
12 WHEREAS, Once serious symptoms of valley fever appear,
13 including pneumonia and labored breathing, treatment must be
14 prompt with antifungal drugs that are disagreeable and often toxic,
15 especially for patients who have it injected beneath the base of
16 their skull for meningitis, causing side effects such as nausea,
17 fever, and kidney damage; and
18 WHEREAS, Within California alone, valley fever is found in
19 portions of the Sacramento Valley, all of the San Joaquin Valley,
20 desert regions, and portions of southern California; and
21 WHEREAS, Valley fever affects the young, the elderly, and
22 those with lowered immune systems, which number in the tens of
23 thousands; and
24 WHEREAS, Valley fever has been a disease studied for the past
25 100 years, but still remains impossible to control and difficult to
26 treat; and
27 WHEREAS, There is no known cure to date for valley fever;
28 however, researchers are closer than they ever have been in finding
29 a much needed vaccine to this devastating disease; and
30 WHEREAS, The research effort to find a vaccine and the
31 funding partnership, including funding from the State of
32 California, was approved by the Legislature and signed by
33 Governor Wilson in 1997; now, therefore, be it
34 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
35 *thereof concurring, That the Legislature does hereby proclaim*
36 August 2002 as Valley Fever Awareness Month.

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