

Introduced by Senator Gaines

February 9, 2012

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 63—Relative to Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 63, as introduced, Gaines. Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

This measure would designate the month of September 2012 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the State of California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that one
2 in six men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime.
3 Approximately 241,740 new cases of the disease in the United
4 States are predicted for 2012, resulting in nearly 28,170 deaths;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, In California, prostate cancer is the most common
7 cancer among men in all race and ethnic groups. African American
8 men are at especially high risk for prostate cancer; and

9 WHEREAS, In California, approximately 23,410 men are
10 predicted to be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2012, and, of
11 this number, approximately 3,110 men are predicted to die of this
12 disease; and

13 WHEREAS, While prostate cancer is a leading cause of cancer
14 deaths in men, little is known about this disease and there are
15 usually no symptoms in the early stages; and

16 WHEREAS, The survival rate approaches 100 percent when
17 prostate cancer is diagnosed and treated early, but drops to 29
18 percent when the disease spreads to other parts of the body; and

1 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society recommends that
2 health care providers offer a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood
3 test and a digital rectal examination (DRE) annually to men who
4 have at least a 10-year life expectancy, beginning when the men
5 are 50 years of age; and

6 WHEREAS, Men in high-risk groups, such as African American
7 men or those with brothers or fathers who have had prostate cancer,
8 should be offered a PSA and DRE beginning when they are 45
9 years of age; and

10 WHEREAS, Men who have multiple family members who were
11 diagnosed with prostate cancer at an early age should consult with
12 their health care provider about prostate cancer screening beginning
13 when they are 40 years of age; now, therefore, be it

14 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
15 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the month of
16 September 2012 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the State
17 of California and encourages public officials and citizens of
18 California to observe the month with appropriate activities and
19 programs; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That the Legislature joins communities across our
21 nation to increase the awareness of the importance of early
22 detection and treatment of prostate cancer; and be it further

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