

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 1, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 66

Introduced by Assembly Member Waldron

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Allen, Brown, Chávez, Beth Gaines, Grove, Medina, Melendez, Olsen, Quirk-Silva, Salas, Wagner, ~~and Wilk~~ Wilk, Ammiano, Atkins, Bigelow, Bloom, Bocanegra, Bonilla, Bonta, Bradford, Ian Calderon, Campos, Chau, Chesbro, Conway, Cooley, Dahle, Daly, Donnelly, Fong, Fox, Garcia, Gatto, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gorell, Gray, Hagman, Harkey, Roger Hernández, Holden, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Linder, Lowenthal, Mansoor, Mitchell, Morrell, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Nestande, Patterson, Perea, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk, Rendon, Skinner, Stone, Ting, Weber, Williams, and Yamada)

June 13, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 66—Relative to Internet crimes.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 66, as amended, Waldron. Internet Crimes Against Children Awareness Month.

This measure would designate October 2013 as Internet Crimes Against Children Awareness Month and state that the Legislature supports increased funding for the Internet Crimes Against Children task forces, online communications systems, or computer technology to help detect the sexual exploitation of children, updating reporting laws, and strengthening disclosure laws.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Computers and the Internet have become prevalent
2 in California homes, schools, and libraries; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2010, 85 percent of children 3 to 17 years of
4 age had access to a computer at home, and almost 57 percent used
5 the Internet at home; and

6 WHEREAS, Children and adolescents commonly use computers
7 for playing games, completing school assignments, word
8 processing, e-mail, and connecting to the Internet; and

9 WHEREAS, Education is the single most common motivation
10 parents cite for their children to use the Internet from home; and

11 WHEREAS, While the Internet has helped to make education,
12 entertainment, and socialization more accessible for youth, it has
13 also made child victimization easier for predators; and

14 WHEREAS, Physical contact between the child and the
15 perpetrator does not need to occur for a child to become a victim
16 or for a crime to be committed; and

17 WHEREAS, Many victims of Internet crimes do not disclose
18 their victimization or even realize that they have been victims of
19 a crime; and

20 WHEREAS, Predators contact children over the Internet and
21 victimize them by enticing them through online contact for the
22 purpose of engaging them in sexual acts, using the Internet for the
23 production, manufacture, and distribution of child pornography,
24 using the Internet to expose youth to child pornography and
25 encourage them to exchange pornography, and enticing and
26 exploiting children for the purpose of sexual tourism (travel with
27 the intent to engage in sexual behavior) for commercial gain or
28 personal gratification; and

29 WHEREAS, Pornography is often used in the sexual
30 victimization of children. About 25 percent of children have been
31 exposed to unwanted pornographic material online; and

32 WHEREAS, One in seven children have received a sexual
33 solicitation online; and

34 WHEREAS, In the 2009 fiscal year, task forces participating
35 in the federal Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force
36 Program reported nearly 28,000 complaints, including child
37 pornography, enticement or obscenity directed to minors, and child
38 prostitution. These complaints resulted in more than 13,000
39 investigations; and

1 WHEREAS, Parents, school officials, law enforcement officers,
2 and other adults can prevent Internet crimes against children by
3 taking various measures, including keeping computers in open
4 areas, monitoring the amount of time a child spends online, and
5 educating children about the dangers of Internet crimes; now,
6 therefore, be it

7 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
8 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates October 2013
9 as Internet Crimes Against Children Awareness Month to educate
10 parents, children, and the general public about the critical issue of
11 Internet crimes against children statewide in order to protect
12 children against unspeakable crimes; and be it further

13 *Resolved*, That the Legislature supports increased funding for
14 ICAC task forces, online communications systems, or computer
15 technology to help detect the sexual exploitation of children,
16 updating reporting laws, and strengthening disclosure laws; and
17 be it further

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