

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 95

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 46

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 95—Relative to Breastfeeding Awareness Week.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 17, 1996.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 95, Villaraigosa. Breastfeeding Awareness Week.

This measure would proclaim August 1 through 7, 1996, Breastfeeding Awareness Week.

WHEREAS, All available knowledge indicates that human milk optimally enhances the growth, development, and well-being of an infant by providing the best possible nutrition, protecting against numerous infections and allergies, and promoting maternal and infant bonding; and

WHEREAS, A mother derives emotional and physiological benefits by breastfeeding and at the same time she provides her child with the first-class nutrition guaranteed by mother's milk; and

WHEREAS, Breastfeeding has benefits to society through stronger family bonds and decreased health care costs for infants; and

WHEREAS, The incidence and duration of breastfeeding among women in California is significantly lower than the national average and is especially low among economically disadvantaged families; and

WHEREAS, The health care sector should support education of communities about the advantages of breastfeeding and encourage the establishment of needed support systems to facilitate the initiation and continuation of breastfeeding as the normal and preferred infant feeding method; and

WHEREAS, The practice of breastfeeding has diminished due to social and economic pressures, misunderstandings of lactation management, and a decrease in available experienced breastfeeding mothers for help and support; and

WHEREAS, It should be a goal of the state to improve infant and family health by creating a supportive public environment that positively impacts the initiation and duration of breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated nationally and internationally during the first week of August; and

WHEREAS, The theme for the 1996 World Breastfeeding Week is "Breastfeeding: A Community Responsibility," which acknowledges that many groups and forces in a community can influence a woman's choice about breastfeeding; and



WHEREAS, Communities throughout California, which include families, schools, health providers, businesses, churches, civic groups, clubs, libraries, professional organizations, labor unions, and the government can become involved in creating a supportive and nurturing environment for breastfeeding; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby proclaims the week of August 1 through 7, 1996, as Breastfeeding Awareness Week, a special time to promote, publicize, and celebrate breastfeeding, to afford an opportunity for the citizens of California to become aware of the many benefits of breastfeeding, and to support breastfeeding as a high priority for healthier babies in the state; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief of the Assembly transmit a suitably prepared copy of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

