

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 235**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Arambula**

May 8, 2018

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 235—Relative to Trauma-Informed Awareness Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 235, as introduced, Arambula. Trauma-Informed Awareness Day.

This measure would designate May 22, 2018, as Trauma-Informed Awareness Day in California, in conjunction with National Trauma-Informed Awareness Day, to highlight the impact of trauma and the importance of prevention and community resilience through trauma-informed care.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The California Legislature unanimously passed  
2 Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 155 in 2014, urging the  
3 Governor to reduce children's exposure to adverse childhood  
4 experiences, address the impacts of those experiences, and build  
5 and promote resilience and protective factors, while investing in  
6 preventive health care and mental health and wellness  
7 interventions; and

8 WHEREAS, Forty-two percent of California children and 61  
9 percent of California adults have experienced one or more adverse  
10 childhood experiences (ACEs); and

11 WHEREAS, ACEs are stressful or traumatic experiences that  
12 include abuse, neglect, racism, and household instability; and

1 WHEREAS, ACEs are recognized as a proxy for toxic stress,  
2 which can affect brain and body development, and if not addressed,  
3 can lead to mental, emotional, and physical health consequences  
4 affecting health and well-being across the lifespan of a person;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, ACEs are determinants of major public health  
7 problems in California, such as heart disease, substance abuse, and  
8 mental illness. Detrimental effects can be buffered by building  
9 resiliency and promoting protective factors in a child's life through  
10 early intervention; and

11 WHEREAS, Trauma-informed care is an approach that can  
12 bring greater understanding and more effective ways to prevent,  
13 identify, and support and serve children, adults, families, and  
14 communities affected by ACEs, trauma, adversity, and toxic stress;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, By adopting trauma-informed approaches that  
17 build resiliency and promote protective factors in all public, private,  
18 and charter schools, workplaces, communities, and government  
19 programs, training and licensing can aid in preventing mental,  
20 emotional, physical, and social issues for people impacted by  
21 ACEs, trauma, adversity, and toxic stress; and

22 WHEREAS, Trauma-informed care has been promoted and  
23 established in nearly one-half of California's 58 counties, in both  
24 urban and rural communities, including, but not limited to, the  
25 following:

26 (1) The County of Los Angeles Trauma and Resiliency-Informed  
27 Systems Change Initiative has convened over 100 stakeholders  
28 from county systems, philanthropy and community-based  
29 organizations, and academia to advance a countywide agenda to  
30 embed trauma-informed policies and practices across the county's  
31 child and family serving systems.

32 (2) Resilient Sacramento provided education and support to  
33 First 5 Sacramento Commission as the agency initiated  
34 trauma-informed practices. As a result, the commission  
35 incorporated language on the importance of trauma-informed  
36 approaches into its 2018 Strategic Plan, and included a contract  
37 requirement that all funded partners participate in trauma-informed  
38 training throughout the year.

39 (3) The County of Fresno Trauma and Resilience Network has  
40 assembled over 80 different organizational leaders that are learning

1 together and working toward being a trauma-informed community,  
2 while developing practices that build resilience in kids, families,  
3 and neighborhoods. The group is collecting data on individual and  
4 community ACEs to have a more accurate awareness of the depth  
5 of trauma victims are facing.

6 (4) The Safe Long Beach Violence Prevention Plan (Safe Long  
7 Beach) was adopted in May 2014 by the Long Beach City Council  
8 to address a broad safety agenda aimed at reducing all forms of  
9 violence, including domestic abuse, child abuse, elder abuse, hate  
10 crimes, bullying, gang violence, and violent crime. Safe Long  
11 Beach draws upon the city's many existing assets to target violence  
12 at its root and build a safer Long Beach by 2020. The Trauma  
13 Induced Task Force of Long Beach (TITFLB) is an integral part  
14 of establishing Long Beach as a trauma-informed city. In its first  
15 year, the TITFLB established a framework for acceptance,  
16 engagement, and promotion of trauma-informed approaches for  
17 the City of Long Beach, and continues to be an integral part of  
18 establishing Long Beach as a trauma-informed city.

19 (5) A broad coalition of agencies, nonprofits, and individuals  
20 in the County of Del Norte are providing education and training  
21 focused on building community resilience and trauma-informed  
22 practices. The education committee of the Del Norte Child Abuse  
23 Prevention Council is partnering with the Del Norte County Unified  
24 School District to provide trauma-informed and resilience practices  
25 training for all teachers and administrators.

26 (6) The Healthy Mendocino Project regional childhood trauma  
27 action teams are developing local messaging, collaborating on  
28 trauma-informed trainings, and creating opportunities for resilience  
29 building. The Mendocino County Health and Human Services  
30 Agency Community Outreach Unit is collaborating with the  
31 University of California at Davis, Champions Project, on a pilot  
32 program to provide trauma-informed services to children who have  
33 experienced trauma through adulthood. FIRST 5 Mendocino offers  
34 agencies, providers, and community members specialized tools  
35 and strategies to mitigate the impacts of trauma and by using the  
36 Community Resiliency Model and the Trauma Resiliency Model.  
37 The County of Mendocino recognizes that those in the helping  
38 profession also experience trauma, and are helping those  
39 professionals and their employers understand the importance of  
40 operationalizing self-care in their work environment; and

1 WHEREAS, The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services  
2 Administration and many other agencies and organizations provide  
3 substantial resources to better engage individuals and communities  
4 across the United States in order to implement trauma-informed  
5 care; now, therefore, be it

6 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
7 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature designates May 22, 2018,  
8 as Trauma-Informed Awareness Day in California, in conjunction  
9 with National Trauma-Informed Awareness Day, to highlight the  
10 impact of trauma and the importance of prevention and community  
11 resilience through trauma-informed care; and be it further

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