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ACR-201 California Young Parents Day. (2015-2016)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 201

CHAPTER 193

Relative to California Young Parents Day.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 09, 2016.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 201, Gonzalez. California Young Parents Day.

This measure would recognize August 25, 2016, and every August 25 thereafter, as California Young Parents Day and would urge all Californians to join in celebrating California Young Parents Day.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, Young mothers and fathers, as all families, deserve dignity, tangible support, and recognition as important members of California communities; and

WHEREAS, Young mothers and fathers, as all youth, are part of the fabric of vibrant communities across California and represent its future prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Children, youth, and young adults under 20 years of age make up over one-quarter of California's population; and

WHEREAS, Young people of all economic backgrounds, gender identities and expression, sexualities, abilities, and immigration statuses have the right to parent the children they have; and

WHEREAS, Pregnant and parenting youth have the right, as all youth, to all support needed to continue with their educational and career goals, including child care, health care, housing assistance, and job training and other economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Using negative language and stereotypes around young parenting serves only to blame and denigrate young people for their circumstances and does not reflect their realities; and

WHEREAS, Young people of color, whether pregnant, parenting, or nonparenting, face persistent systemic inequities, including, but not limited to, poverty, racism, sexism, and violence, that shape and often undermine their decisionmaking and aspirations; and

WHEREAS, Pregnant, parenting, and nonparenting youth must have access to culturally relevant and gender-sensitive sexual and reproductive health services and educational, material, economic, and emotional support; and

WHEREAS, The health and wellness of young parents and their children is our shared responsibility and must be reflected in our state policies; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature recognizes the contributions and needs of young parents and that this resolution serves as a framework to inform future policy decisions that affect their well being; and be it further

Resolved, That August 25, 2016, and every August 25 thereafter, shall be recognized as "California Young Parents Day" and that all Californians are encouraged to celebrate the occasion; and be it further

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