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**ACR-235 Trauma-Informed Awareness Day.** (2017-2018)

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**Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 235**

**CHAPTER 99**

Relative to Trauma-Informed Awareness Day.

[ Filed with Secretary of State June 13, 2018. ]

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

ACR 235, 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) The County of Fresno Trauma and Resilience Network has assembled over 80 different organizational leaders that are learning together and working toward being a trauma-informed community, while developing practices that build resilience in kids, families, and neighborhoods. The group is collecting data on individual and community ACEs to have a more accurate awareness of the depth of trauma victims are facing.

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

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

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

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

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature designates 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; and be it further

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