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SCR-119 May 2018: California YMCA Safety Around Water Month. (2017-2018)

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 119

CHAPTER 61

Relative to California YMCA Safety Around Water Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State May 08, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 119, Jackson. May 2018: California YMCA Safety Around Water Month.

This measure would observe May 2018 as California YMCA Safety Around Water Month.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, drowning is the leading cause of accidental death for children zero to four years of age, inclusive; and

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, drowning is the second-leading cause of accidental death for children five to 14 years of age, inclusive; and

WHEREAS, In the United States, two children drown every day; and

WHEREAS, Eighty-eight percent of all child drowning incidents occur when an adult is present; and

WHEREAS, Ninety percent of all child drowning incidents occur within 30 feet of safety and 60 percent occur within 10 feet of safety; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, in California, there were 60 drowning fatalities and 804 immersion-related emergency visits and hospitalizations for children zero to four years of age, inclusive; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, in California, there were 25 drowning fatalities and 207 immersion-related emergency visits and hospitalizations for children five to 17 years of age, inclusive; and

WHEREAS, The Young Men's Christian Association ("YMCA" or "the Y") teaches one million children to swim each year in the United States and has been California's leading swim instruction resource for over 100 years; and

WHEREAS, The Y offers an evidence-based water safety program for children and families called "Safety Around Water," which teaches young children and their caregivers life-saving water skills ("Swim, Float, Swim" and "Jump, Push, Turn, Grab") and knowledge to prevent drowning and encourages participation in aquatics as a healthy fitness and recreational activity; and

WHEREAS, The California State Alliance of YMCAs has a statewide commitment to reducing childhood drowning through the Safety Around Water program; and

WHEREAS, The YMCAs in California offering the Safety Around Water program do so at no charge to participants; and

WHEREAS, The month of May of each year is recognized as National Drowning Prevention Month; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the month of May 2018 be observed as California YMCA Safety Around Water Month; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.