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SR-64 (2017-2018)

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ENROLLED SEPTEMBER 08, 2017

PASSED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 07, 2017

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2017–2018 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE RESOLUTION

NO. 64

Introduced by Senators Atkins, Bates, Fuller, Galgiani, Jackson, Leyva, Mitchell, Nguyen, and Skinner

September 05, 2017

Relative to Breast Cancer Awareness and Prevention Month

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SR 64, Atkins.

WHEREAS, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, recognized during the month of October, informs the public about breast cancer, the causes and prevention of the disease, and how to receive screening for early detection; and

WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, with the exception of skin cancer, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among American women; and

WHEREAS, Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among American Hispanic women, and breast cancer is second only to lung cancer as the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among other American women; and

WHEREAS, Regardless of race or ethnicity, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in California, where approximately 24,985 women and 200 men are diagnosed with breast cancer each year, and approximately 4,280 women and 35 men die of the disease; and

WHEREAS, The number of women who die of breast cancer each year in California constitutes one-tenth of the number of women who die of breast cancer in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The chance of a woman having invasive breast cancer in her lifetime is about 1 in 8, and the chance of dying from breast cancer is about 1 in 36; and

WHEREAS, Although less likely to contract the disease, African American women are 40 percent more likely to die from breast cancer as opposed to white women, a disparity that is attributed to later-stage detection and unequal receipt of high-quality

medical treatment as well as the fact that African American women are more susceptible to aggressive, cancerous tumors and more likely to develop breast cancer at a younger age, when screening services are less available; and

WHEREAS, Earlier detection of breast cancer through mammography and self-examination increases chances of successful treatment; and

WHEREAS, Once breast cancer spreads beyond the breast, the survival rate drops to a mere 25 percent even with modern treatments and technologies; and

WHEREAS, With early detection and proper treatment, the five-year relative survival rate for breast cancer has increased from 72 percent in the 1940s to 89.2 percent today; and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of all Californians to join this continuing battle against breast cancer by promoting greater awareness of the need for early detection, appropriate treatment, and the importance of finding a cure, as well as a means of prevention; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the month of October is hereby declared Breast Cancer Awareness and Prevention Month in California; and be it further

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