



SR-29 (2019-2020)

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ENROLLED APRIL 25, 2019

PASSED IN SENATE APRIL 25, 2019

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2019–2020 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE RESOLUTION

NO. 29

Introduced by Senator Caballero
(Coauthors: Senators Bates, Galgiani, Grove, and Rubio)

April 04, 2019

Relative to Child Abuse Prevention Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SR 29, Caballero.

WHEREAS, Preventing child abuse and neglect means strengthening and educating families, and bringing awareness to communities so that children can thrive; and

WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect continue to pose serious threats to our nation's children; and

WHEREAS, In 2017, according to the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, approximately 65,000 children in California were found to be victims of abuse or neglect, and 1,720 children in the United States died as a result of child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, Children who have been abused or neglected have a higher risk of developing various health problems as adults, including alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, eating disorders, obesity, and suicide, and face a greater likelihood of becoming involved in criminal activities; and

WHEREAS, California's children deserve to grow up in a safe and nurturing environment free from fear, abuse, and neglect; and

WHEREAS, While statewide, child abuse and neglect cases disproportionately involve children of color, child abuse still touches every socioeconomic and educational level and is found in every ethnic group; and

WHEREAS, Effective programs succeed because of partnerships among human service agencies, community-based organizations, schools, faith-based organizations, law enforcement, and the business community; and

WHEREAS, Family resource centers continue to play a key role in preventing child abuse and neglect in their communities by being community based, family focused, and culturally sensitive collaborative organizations that provide programs and services to families; and

WHEREAS, Prevention of child abuse and neglect depends on education and the involvement of people throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect have long-term economic and societal costs; and

WHEREAS, Providing community-based prevention services to families whose children may be at risk of child abuse or neglect can help avoid the costs of protective services, law enforcement, the judicial system, foster care, and the treatment of adults recovering from abuse as children; and

WHEREAS, Victims of child abuse, whether the abuse is physical, sexual, or emotional, or any combination of these, should have access to a safe place to live, appropriate medical care, and counseling or mental health services; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, Prevent Child Abuse America, the Child Abuse Prevention Center, the California Family Resource Association, and other groups have organized Blue Ribbon Campaigns to increase public awareness of child abuse and to promote ways to prevent child abuse; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the President of the United States issues a proclamation announcing April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, Pinwheels are displayed to increase the awareness of child abuse and to focus on the positive message of preventing child abuse and neglect by supporting families and strengthening communities during Child Abuse Prevention Month; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate hereby acknowledges the month of April 2019 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and encourages the people of the State of California to work together to support youth-serving child abuse prevention activities in their communities and schools during that month and throughout the year; and be it further

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