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ACR-53 Purple Star School Program. (2021-2022)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 53

CHAPTER 57

Relative to Purple Star Schools.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 01, 2021.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 53, Ward. Purple Star School Program.

This measure would request the State Department of Education to establish and manage a program designating schools that support military-connected pupils as Purple Star Schools and use the Military Child Education Coalition for resources and information regarding the Purple Star School Program.

Fiscal Committee: yes

WHEREAS, A Purple Star School is a public school that is committed to supporting the unique educational and social-emotional needs of military-connected pupils; and

WHEREAS, Purple Star Schools recognize that military-connected pupils must move whenever their active duty parent receives a relocation order and will uproot and change schools far more often than their civilian peers; and

WHEREAS, A military-connected pupil can expect to move six to nine times between kindergarten and their high school graduation; and

WHEREAS, Purple Star Schools acknowledge that every military-connected pupil leaves behind friends and support networks and may be dealing with a parent who is away from home on deployment; and

WHEREAS, Several states have begun to recognize Purple Star Schools, including Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia; and

WHEREAS, It is important that California schools share this commitment to military-connected pupils when they relocate to a new school district; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature requests the State Department of Education to establish and manage a program designating Purple Star Schools in California; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature requests the State Department of Education to ensure that, before being designated a Purple Star School, a school shall, at a minimum, designate a staff member as a point of contact for military-connected pupils and families, establish and maintain a dedicated page on its internet website or a location in the school's administrative office featuring information and resources for military families, maintain a pupil-led transition program that includes a pupil transition team

coordinator, and provide professional development for staff members on special issues related to military-connected pupils and families; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature requests the State Department of Education to use the Military Child Education Coalition for resources and information regarding establishing and managing a Purple Star School Program in California; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.