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SCR-56 Blood cancer and blood donation awareness. (2021-2022)

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 56

CHAPTER 144

Relative to blood cancer and blood donation awareness.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 17, 2021.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 56, Melendez. Blood cancer and blood donation awareness.

This measure would designate the month of September 2021 as Leukemia, Lymphoma, and Myeloma Awareness Month and Blood Cancer Awareness Month and the first week of September 2021 as Blood Donation Week.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, According to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, blood cancers currently afflict more than 1,399,180 Americans, with an estimated 176,200 new cases diagnosed each year; and

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs has recognized certain cancers and other health problems as presumptive diseases associated with exposure to Agent Orange or other herbicides during military service, including multiple myeloma, a cancer of plasma cells; and

WHEREAS, Myelofibrosis is an uncommon type of bone marrow cancer that is considered to be a chronic leukemia; and

WHEREAS, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society estimated that leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma would kill an estimated 56,770 people in the United States in 2019; and

WHEREAS, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, through voluntary contributions, is dedicated to finding cures for these diseases through research efforts and the support of those who suffer from these diseases; and

WHEREAS, The State of California is similarly committed to the eradication of these diseases and supports the treatment of its citizens who suffer from them; and

WHEREAS, The State of California encourages efforts to enhance research funding and education programs that address these diseases; and

WHEREAS, The State of California is grateful for healthcare workers who assist with blood cancer patients and blood donations and researchers working to find cures for diseases impacting the blood; and

WHEREAS, Donated blood helps trauma and burn patients, premature infants, heart surgery patients, organ transplant recipients, and those fighting cancer, among others; and

WHEREAS, New blood and bone marrow donors are needed every day to replace those who can no longer donate; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature declares the month of September 2021 as "Leukemia, Lymphoma, and Myeloma Awareness Month" and "Blood Cancer Awareness Month"; and be it further

Resolved, That the first week in September be known as "Blood Donation Week" to encourage participation in voluntary activities to donate blood and bone marrow; and be it further

Resolved, That "Leukemia, Lymphoma, and Myeloma Awareness Month," "Blood Cancer Awareness Month," and "Blood Donation Week," be used to educate Californians about the importance of donating blood and bone marrow and to recognize the research programs being used to find a cure for these diseases; and be it further

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