

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 4, 2021

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2021–22 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 23**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Villapudua**

February 8, 2021

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 23—Relative to ~~Military, Veteran, and~~ Construction Industry Suicide Prevention Awareness Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 23, as amended, Villapudua. ~~Military, Veteran, and~~ Construction Industry Suicide Prevention Awareness Day.

This measure would promote awareness of the problem of suicide facing the men and women within California's ~~military, veteran, and~~ construction industry populations by proclaiming March 18, 2021, as ~~Military, Veteran, and~~ Construction Industry Suicide Prevention Awareness Day in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Suicide is a serious and tragic public health  
2 problem that is growing in the United States that can be prevented  
3 through increased awareness, resources, and proper treatment; and

4 WHEREAS, Suicide affects all Americans, but data shows that  
5 our ~~military, veteran, and~~ construction industry ~~personnel~~  
6 *personnel, many of whom are also veterans seeking an opportunity*  
7 *to leverage their military construction skills*, in California and the  
8 nation die by suicide at much higher rates than other populations;  
9 and

10 ~~WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of~~  
11 ~~Defense, the military services reported the following for all of~~

1 ~~2016: 275 deaths by suicide for active military members; 203~~  
2 ~~deaths by suicide for military reserve members; and 123 deaths~~  
3 ~~by suicide for members of the National Guard; and~~

4 WHEREAS, According to a recent study by the federal Centers  
5 for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the suicide rate among  
6 working-age males, notably those between 16 and 64 years of age,  
7 increased 34 percent during the 2000 to 2016, inclusive, timeframe,  
8 and that the occupational group with the highest male suicide rate  
9 is construction and extraction; and

10 *WHEREAS, The CDC recommends fostering social connections*  
11 *and economic supports, thereby improving access to appropriate*  
12 *mental health and other resources and services, and encouraging*  
13 *at-risk individuals to seek mental health treatment, if necessary,*  
14 *without the stigma that sometimes goes along with it, to possibly*  
15 *decrease the number of suicides; and*

16 *WHEREAS, The construction industry continues to seek better*  
17 *information about the root causes of the industry's too high suicide*  
18 *rates; and*

19 WHEREAS, This resolution endeavors to promote awareness  
20 of the problem of suicide and the particular epidemic facing the  
21 men and women within California's ~~military, veteran, and~~  
22 construction industry populations and encourages our communities  
23 and the people of the State of California to work together to  
24 continue to educate the public on how to recognize the warning  
25 signs and improve the outreach to, and treatment of, these  
26 individuals at risk for suicide; now, therefore, be it

27 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
28 *thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby proclaims March*  
29 *18, 2021, as ~~Military, Veteran, and~~ Construction Industry Suicide*  
30 *Prevention Awareness Day in California; and be it further*

31 *Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies*  
32 *of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.*