

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 1, 2021

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2021–22 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 91**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Chiu**

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bigelow, Bloom, Boerner Horvath, Burke, Calderon, Carrillo, Cervantes, Chau, Chen, Choi, Cooley, Cooper, Cunningham, Megan Dahle, Daly, Fong, Frazier, Friedman, Gabriel, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gipson, Lorena Gonzalez, Gray, Grayson, Holden, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Kalra, Lackey, Lee, Levine, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, Medina, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Nguyen, O'Donnell, Patterson, Petrie-Norris, Quirk, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Rendon, Reyes, Luz Rivas, Robert Rivas, Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Salas, Santiago, Seyarto, Smith, Stone, Ting, Valladares, Villapudua, Voepel, Waldron, Ward, Akilah Weber, Wicks, and Wood)**

June 9, 2021

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 91—Relative to Healthy Homes Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 91, as amended, Chiu. Healthy Homes Awareness Month.

This measure would designate the month of June 2021 as Healthy Homes Awareness Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Housing and  
2 Urban Development recognizes June as National Healthy Homes  
3 Month; and

4 WHEREAS, Healthy homes are dry, pest free, contaminant free,  
5 safe, ventilated, clean, well maintained, thermally controlled, and  
6 affordable; and

7 WHEREAS, Unhealthy conditions, including physical safety  
8 hazards and exposure to lead-based paint, radon, mold, pests,  
9 allergens, and second- and third-hand smoke, cause or contribute  
10 to a wide range of illness and disease, including lead poisoning,  
11 asthma, cancer, and physical injury; and

12 WHEREAS, Living with substandard housing conditions or  
13 housing costs exceeding 30 percent of income are associated with  
14 increased stress and other mental health impacts; and

15 WHEREAS, California faces considerable healthy homes  
16 challenges, including, according to a 2017 American Housing  
17 Survey report, nearly 660,000 homes having “severely inadequate”  
18 or “moderately inadequate” plumbing, heating, and electrical  
19 systems, nearly 1,200,000 homes having signs of mice, over  
20 1,600,000 reporting cockroaches, over 2,000,000 having water  
21 leaks, and almost 500,000 having mold; and

22 *WHEREAS, Continued investment is needed to acquire homes*  
23 *in disrepair that are currently not affordable, rehabilitate them,*  
24 *and convert them to permanent affordable housing that can be*  
25 *made available at a cost that is below 30 percent of their residents’*  
26 *incomes and is free from health and safety hazards; and*

27 *WHEREAS, It is critical to maintain the health, quality, and*  
28 *safety of our existing subsidized affordable homes, many of which*  
29 *are located in older buildings, with continued state investment to*  
30 *ensure habitability and long-term affordability; and*

31 WHEREAS, Farmworkers are a key to California’s economy,  
32 yet disproportionately face unhealthy and structurally deficient  
33 housing conditions that are often exacerbated by crowding or lack  
34 of affordability; and

35 WHEREAS, Mobilehomes represent a substantial portion of  
36 the unsubsidized affordable housing supply in many communities,  
37 particularly in rural areas, and tend to house older Californians  
38 who tend to have more health vulnerabilities than the general  
39 public, yet water systems in mobilehome parks are more likely to  
40 incur health violations, and health and safety inspections were

1 conducted at fewer than half of the mobilehome parks under state  
2 jurisdiction between 2010 and 2019; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2018, over 7,140 children tested in California  
4 had elevated blood lead levels, with deteriorated lead-based paint  
5 as the leading cause of exposure; and

6 WHEREAS, In 2016, over 324,000 older Californians went to  
7 the emergency department or were hospitalized due to falls, often  
8 resulting from unsafe conditions in the home, which is a 68 percent  
9 increase from 2006; and

10 WHEREAS, Renters, who are, according to a 2017 American  
11 Housing Survey report, 3.4 times more likely to live in housing  
12 with moderately inadequate plumbing, heating, and electrical  
13 systems, 2.75 times more likely to have mold in their homes, and  
14 2.25 times more likely to report cockroaches in their homes,  
15 disproportionately live in unhealthy conditions; and

16 *WHEREAS, An estimated one in three nonsmokers living in*  
17 *rental housing is exposed to secondhand smoke; and*

18 WHEREAS, Disparities in the quality of rental housing and  
19 owner-occupied housing disproportionately harm communities of  
20 color in California as 65 percent of African Americans and 57  
21 percent of Latinxs rent their home compared to 36 percent of  
22 whites; *Whites*; and

23 WHEREAS, Private and public investment in housing quality  
24 can improve health outcomes, reduce health care costs, and reduce  
25 racial and ethnic health disparities while also making homes more  
26 resilient to extreme weather and wildfires; and

27 WHEREAS, Many families and households in California are  
28 unaware that their homes can have serious health and safety  
29 hazards, and awareness about the dangers of unhealthy or unsafe  
30 housing can save lives; and

31 WHEREAS, Many federal, state, and local programs provide  
32 support to homeowners, landlords, and tenants to mitigate and  
33 prevent injury and illness from unhealthy housing conditions,  
34 including childhood lead poisoning prevention, tobacco control,  
35 weatherization, aging in place, home repair, and housing  
36 rehabilitation and preservation programs; now, therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
38 *thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates the*  
39 *month of June 2021 as Healthy Homes Awareness Month in order*  
40 *to increase awareness and understanding of healthy housing, and*

- 1 to educate ~~home owners~~, *homeowners*, landlords, and renters of
- 2 programs and resources available to mitigate unhealthy housing
- 3 conditions and prevent those conditions from arising in the future;
- 4 and be it further
- 5 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 6 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.