
THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 44
Author: Atkins (D), et al.
Introduced: 5/10/21
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Hospital Week

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares that the Legislature recognizes the week of May 9, 2021, to May 15, 2021, inclusive, as Hospital Week, and recognizes the life-saving contributions of hospitals in this state during the unprecedented coronavirus pandemic.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The novel coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) public health emergency struck the State of California with great impact, leading to more than four million diagnoses, 62,000 deaths, and massive closures of significant sectors of the state's economy.
- 2) California's more than 400 hospitals were called upon to quickly respond to COVID-19. Those hospitals responded by converting physical space, suspending nonessential procedures, purchasing mass quantities of personal protective equipment, hiring additional staff, and establishing new ways to move and care for patients.
- 3) California's hospitals and health care workers provided care to more than 307,000 people diagnosed with COVID-19, and they have saved hundreds of thousands of lives.
- 4) California's hospitals also made significant investments to care for their workforce and communities beyond the need for clinical care, including providing childcare services, housing, and broad support programs, which tended to the mental and emotional well-being of those individuals on the front lines.

- 5) The state recognizes the special place hospitals and health care workers have in California as a cornerstone of our health care system as these hospitals and health care workers tend to the sickest, most vulnerable residents.

This resolution recognizes the week of May 9, 2021, to May 15, 2021, inclusive, as Hospital Week, and recognizes the life-saving contributions of hospitals and health care workers during the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/12/21)

California Hospital Association
Sharp HealthCare
United Hospital Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/12/21)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author states, “California is home to over 400 hospitals, which together provided care to over 300,000 patients with COVID-19 — patients that were often the sickest and most vulnerable. Faced with an unprecedented public health challenge, our hospitals rose to the occasion. Hospital staff and their essential workers, who had concerns for the health and safety of their own families, showed up for us.”

United Hospital Association writes, “During this week [May 9-15, 2021], Californians will acknowledge our hospitals and health care staff who provided care and support at all levels, ensuring patients’ needs were met during unprecedented times. The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us all and California hospitals were and continue to be at the center of the response. Local communities relied on their hospitals and health care workers to care for the sickest patients. Since the pandemic began, California hospitals have cared for an average of 6,600 patients a day, including a daily average of 1,800 ICU patients. California hospitals are pillars of the communities they serve, providing care both inside and outside their four walls.”

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