

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 39—ASSEMBLYMEN PARKS, ANDERSON, ANGLE, ARBERRY, BACHE, BEERS, BERMAN, BROWER, BUCKLEY, CARPENTER, CEGAVSKE, CHOWNING, CLABORN, COLLINS, DE BRAGA, DINI, EVANS, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, GIUNCHIGLIANI, GOLDWATER, GUSTAVSON, HETTRICK, HUMKE, KOIVISTO, LEE, LESLIE, MANENDO, MARVEL, MCCLAIN, MORTENSON, NEIGHBORS, NOLAN, OHRENSCHALL, PARNELL, PERKINS, PRICE, SEGERBLUM, THOMAS, TIFFANY, VON TOBEL AND WILLIAMS

MARCH 24, 1999

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JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS TITUS, AMODEI, CARE, CARLTON, COFFIN, JACOBSEN, JAMES, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS, NEAL, O'CONNELL, O'DONNELL, PORTER, RAGGIO, RAWSON, RHOADS, SCHNEIDER, SHAFFER, TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON AND WIENER

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### Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Designates March 24, 1999, as HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in State of Nevada. (BDR R-1704)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be omitted.

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ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Designating March 24, 1999, as HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in the State of Nevada.

- 1 WHEREAS, The residents of the State of Nevada are its most precious
- 2 resource, and all Nevadans are an integral part of the communities of this
- 3 state and make a valuable contribution to society as a whole; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Nevada ranks 17th in the nation in reported cases of acquired
- 5 immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS); and
- 6 WHEREAS, Young persons under the age of 25 years represent one-half
- 7 of all new infections from exposure to the human immunodeficiency virus
- 8 (HIV) in the United States; and
- 9 WHEREAS, The future of this state lies in its young residents, and the
- 10 benefit of having young Nevadans continue in the work force with
- 11 additional years of earning potential and other sociological contributions is
- 12 incalculable; and

1 WHEREAS, Among persons between the ages of 25 and 44 years,  
2 HIV/AIDS is the second leading cause of death; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1997, there were 8,086 children under the age of 13 years  
4 infected; and

5 WHEREAS, Women now account for 16 percent of all cases of AIDS;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Female adolescents and young women under the age of 25  
8 years are at an even higher risk for HIV infection; and

9 WHEREAS, At the end of 1997, Nevada had the highest incidence of  
10 AIDS in the western states for both men and women, even higher than the  
11 rate of incidence in California; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1997 and 1998, deaths in Nevada attributed to AIDS  
13 declined primarily because of the heroic efforts of scientists, health care  
14 professionals and persons living with HIV/AIDS; and

15 WHEREAS, Patients respond best to therapy early in the course of their  
16 HIV infection when they are still healthy and able to work; and

17 WHEREAS, Research related to AIDS has resulted in new treatments that  
18 are prolonging the lives of many Nevadans living with the disease, and  
19 although the cost of such drug therapy is high, these dollars are more than  
20 compensated for by shorter hospital stays and decreased outpatient care  
21 costs; and

22 WHEREAS, The AIDS epidemic is far from over, with new infections in  
23 Nevada every year, and in the absence of a cure or vaccine, education is the  
24 only defense against this disease; and

25 WHEREAS, The observance of HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is an  
26 opportunity to enhance tolerance, increase compassion and promote  
27 understanding of persons infected with HIV/AIDS while communicating  
28 information about the prevention of this epidemic; now, therefore, be it

29 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE  
30 CONCURRING, That the members of the 70th session of the Nevada  
31 Legislature do hereby designate March 24, 1999, as HIV/AIDS Awareness  
32 Day in the State of Nevada; and be it further

33 RESOLVED, That the Nevada Legislature recognizes the debilitating  
34 effects of HIV/AIDS on the residents of Nevada and their families and  
35 supports the efforts of those local, state and community-based agencies that  
36 are endeavoring to reduce the occurrences of HIV/AIDS among Nevadans.