

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 16—Assemblymen Conklin, Allen, Anderson, Angle, Arberry Jr., Atkinson, Buckley, Carpenter, Christensen, Claborn, Denis, Gansert, Gerhardt, Giunchigliani, Goicoechea, Grady, Hardy, Hettrick, Hogan, Holcomb, Horne, Kirkpatrick, Koivisto, Leslie, Mabey, Manendo, Marvel, McClain, McCleary, Mortenson, Munford, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Parks, Parnell, Perkins, Pierce, Seale, Sherer, Sibley, Smith and Weber

Joint Sponsors: Senators Heck, Amodei, Beers, Care, Carlton, Cegavske, Coffin, Hardy, Horsford, Lee, Mathews, McGinness, Nolan, Raggio, Rhoads, Schneider, Tiffany, Titus, Townsend, Washington and Wiener

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Designating April 12, 2005, as Homeless Youth Awareness Day in Nevada.

WHEREAS, Thousands of children in this State are reported as runaways each year and often join the homeless population on the streets; and

WHEREAS, Many of these runaway children prefer to chance the dangers of life on the street to remaining in their homes where they often experience abuse, violence and other dysfunction; and

WHEREAS, Although the “Right to Shelter Law,” which provided for separate shelters for certain runaway children was passed by the Nevada Legislature in 2001, there are no long-term residential facilities which allow children to seek assistance on a voluntary basis in this State; and

WHEREAS, There is a lack of available statistics concerning the number of homeless children that reside in this State and their need for such long-term residential facilities and other services; and

WHEREAS, Children who are homeless are unable to support themselves financially, causing them to become desperate, hungry and vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, Homeless children often become sexually active, are at risk of becoming pregnant, engaging in prostitution and contracting sexually transmitted diseases, suffer from poor nutrition and dehydration, become suicidal and suffer various other harms which affect their overall health, well-being and ability to become productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, To properly address the needs of this often forgotten population, it is important to raise public awareness of the serious issues concerning homeless children in this State and to encourage public support for programs designed to assist those children; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Legislature recognize the outstanding efforts of the state and local governmental agencies and nonprofit entities dedicated to fighting the problem of homeless children in the State of Nevada; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That April 12, 2005, is hereby designated as Homeless Youth Awareness Day in Nevada; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby express their commitment to creating a greater public awareness of the problem of homelessness of children in Nevada and to continue to work cooperatively to solve this problem; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to Michael Hillerby, Chief of Staff to Governor Kenny C. Guinn and to the Board of Directors of the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth.