

Date of Hearing: August 21, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES

Blanca Pacheco, Chair

ACR 112 (Gallagher) – As Introduced August 19, 2025

SUBJECT: Deaf Awareness Month.

SUMMARY: Recognizes the month of September 2025 as Deaf Awareness Month in California. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The purpose of Deaf Awareness Month, celebrated in September, is to bring visibility and awareness to Deaf issues, people, and culture, emphasizing the positive aspects of deafness, encouraging social inclusion, and raising awareness of the organizations locally, nationally, and globally that support those who are deaf.
- 2) Deaf Awareness Month traces its roots to the International Week of the Deaf, established in 1958 by the World Federation of the Deaf, and evolving into a month-long celebration and recognition of the Deaf community in 1997.
- 3) Deaf Awareness Month seeks to increase public understanding of Deaf issues, individuals, and culture by highlighting barriers faced by deaf individuals and by promoting inclusivity, accessibility, and communication.
- 4) Three million Californians identify as deaf or hard of hearing, and the Deaf community intersects with all ages, ethnicities, backgrounds, and geographies. Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals have made, and continue to make, numerous contributions to the cultural and economic vitality of California and the United States.
- 5) The celebration of Deaf Awareness Month provides a platform for the Deaf community to express their culture, language, and experiences, while offering an opportunity to participate in, learn about, and appreciate Deaf culture.

FISCAL EFFECT: This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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