
THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 154
Author: Patterson (R), et al.
Introduced: 3/2/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: California Down Syndrome Awareness Week and Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims March 15, 2026, to March 21, 2026, inclusive, as California Down Syndrome Awareness Week and March 21, 2026, as California Down Syndrome Day, and encourages all Californians to support and participate in related activities.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Down syndrome occurs when an individual has a full or partial extra copy of chromosome 21. This additional genetic material alters the course of development and causes the characteristics associated with Down syndrome.
- 2) The inherent dignity and worth of persons with Down syndrome, their valuable contributions as promoters of well-being and diversity of their communities, and the importance of their individual autonomy and independence, including the freedom to make their own choices, should be recognized.
- 3) In 2011, the United Nations General Assembly declared March 21 as World Down Syndrome Day, to be observed every year beginning in 2012, and invited all to observe World Down Syndrome Day in order to raise public awareness of Down syndrome. The 21st day of the third month was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication of the 21st chromosome that causes Down syndrome.

This resolution proclaims March 15, 2026, to March 21, 2026, inclusive, as California Down Syndrome Awareness Week and March 21, 2026, as California Down Syndrome Day.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 41 (Patterson, Resolution Chapter 54, Statutes of 2025)

ACR 148 (Patterson, Resolution Chapter 52, Statutes of 2024)

ACR 26 (Patterson, Resolution Chapter 34, Statutes of 2023)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 4/6/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 4/6/26)

None received

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4/8/26 14:53:16

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