

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 3**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Wyman**

December 4, 2000

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 3—Relative to the Tomo-Kahni State Park.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 3, as introduced, Wyman. Tomo-Kahni State Park.

This measure would urge the Department of Parks and Recreation to implement the acquisition of lands, the protection of natural and cultural resources, and the establishment of a Visitor/Interpretive Center at Tomo-Kahni State Park.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Tomo-Kahni State Park near Tehachapi is the first  
2 unit of the California State Park System established primarily as  
3 an archaeological preserve; and

4 WHEREAS, With respect to Tomo-Kahni State Park, the State  
5 Park and Recreation Commission will be completing the formal  
6 naming and classification process in Tehachapi in spring 2001; and

7 WHEREAS, The Sand Canyon area appears to have been the  
8 center of material, cultural, and ceremonial life for the Kawaiisu  
9 people during prehistoric and ethnographic periods; and

10 WHEREAS, There are more than 200 archaeological sites that  
11 have been recorded in the area; and

12 WHEREAS, In addition to the central village area, there are  
13 archaeological sites throughout the area containing house rings,

1 springs, a rock shelter, a cave with pictographs, a food processing  
2 milling area, and Ma'a'puts Rock; and

3 WHEREAS, The ancestral Kawaiisu people inhabited the area  
4 2,000 years ago, and archaeological excavations have produced  
5 significant artifacts; and

6 WHEREAS, The site may contain endangered plant and animal  
7 species; and

8 WHEREAS, It has been recommended that the Department of  
9 Parks and Recreation display a set of Native American villages that  
10 represent major cultural groupings and geographically diverse  
11 lifestyles, and provide regional museums to supplement the State  
12 Indian Museum in Sacramento; and

13 WHEREAS, The Tehachapi site, because of its location on the  
14 ridge between the Great Valley and the Mojave Desert, represents  
15 the habitat of a native group that exhibited a lifestyle that was a  
16 blend of two different cultures, the Californian and the Great Basin  
17 cultures, and therefore possesses values that warrant protective  
18 measures; and

19 WHEREAS, The preservation and interpretation of significant  
20 evidence of the state's cultural heritage is a primary mission of the  
21 California State Park System; and

22 WHEREAS, Tomo-Kahni State Park is situated within a  
23 three-hour drive for 14,000,000 Californians; and

24 WHEREAS, The amount of land purchased for the park so far  
25 represents only one-third of the high-priority lands originally  
26 identified for purchase; and

27 WHEREAS, The integrity of this precious resource is in  
28 jeopardy from vandalism and unsupervised incursions because  
29 funding has not been made available to operate or secure the site;  
30 now, therefore, be it

31 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
32 *thereof concurring*, That, with respect to the Tomo-Kahni State  
33 Park, the Legislature urges the Department of Parks and  
34 Recreation to proceed immediately to implement the acquisition  
35 of lands, the protection of the natural and cultural resources at the  
36 site, and the enhancement of the park by the establishment of a  
37 Visitor/Interpretive Center in order to educate the public about  
38 Kawaiisu lifeways and to serve as a regional resource to provide  
39 an outstanding educational and environmental experience for  
40 students and the visiting public; and be it further



- 1 *Resolved*, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
- 2 Director of Parks and Recreation.

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