

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 16, 2002

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001–02 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 180**

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**Introduced by Assembly ~~Member Strom-Martin~~ Members  
*Strom-Martin, Wesson, Harman, Jackson, and Wayne***

April 1, 2002

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 180—Relative to California Earth Day 2002.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 180, as amended, Strom-Martin. California Earth Day 2002.

This measure would declare April 22, 2002, as “California Earth Day,” would reaffirm the Legislature’s commitment to the fundamental principles of environmental laws, and would encourage the state’s residents to promote the goals of Earth Day 2002.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Thirty-two years ago, millions of Americans of all  
2 ages, walks of life, and political affiliations joined together on the  
3 first Earth Day in a demonstration of concern and support for the  
4 environment; and

5 WHEREAS, Public environmental awareness, fostered by the  
6 first Earth Day, has led to the enactment of key federal laws,  
7 including the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act, *the National*  
8 *Environmental Policy Act*, and the creation of the Environmental  
9 Protection Agency, to protect the environment; and

10 WHEREAS, The spirit of the first Earth Day has continued to  
11 increase public environmental awareness inspiring many

1 Californians to make individual decisions that reduce adverse  
2 environmental impacts; and

3 WHEREAS, The California environment, including its rocky  
4 coasts, sandy beaches, redwood forests, stark deserts, and  
5 towering mountains, is among the most beautiful in the nation; and

6 WHEREAS, The Legislature recognizes and has helped  
7 safeguard the state's unique scenic beauty, natural resources, and  
8 the quality of its water, air, and land through the enactment of  
9 laws including the California Environmental Quality Act, the  
10 California Coastal Act of 1976, the Hazardous Waste Control Law,  
11 the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, and the  
12 California Clean Air Act; and

13 WHEREAS, *The Legislature evinced its intent to protect the*  
14 *environment by enacting and presenting to the voters the Safe*  
15 *Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood*  
16 *Protection Bond Act of 2000, the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean*  
17 *Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000, and*  
18 *the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks,*  
19 *and Coastal Protection Act of 2002; and the people of California*  
20 *affirmed this intent by approving each of these measures; and*

21 WHEREAS, New and continuing threats of increasing severity  
22 to our environment, including global climate change, stratospheric  
23 ozone depletion, acid rain, polluted oceans and waterways, loss of  
24 forests, wetlands, and other wildlife habitats, and contamination  
25 of air and drinking water sources by nuclear, hazardous, and solid  
26 wastes, demand renewed public involvement; and

27 WHEREAS, *The protection of California's natural resources*  
28 *helps stimulate our economy and enhance our quality of life; and*

29 WHEREAS, *Sometimes our daily actions inadvertently pollute*  
30 *and degrade the fragile environment that all life depends on to*  
31 *survive, and we must continue to make each day an "Earth Day"*  
32 *if we want to ensure a healthy environment for future generations;*  
33 *and*

34 WHEREAS, Activities to celebrate, on April 22, 2002, the 32nd  
35 anniversary of the first Earth Day, will focus public attention on  
36 and encourage personal and community participation in  
37 environmental protection through recycling, conserving energy  
38 and water, using efficient transportation, and other  
39 environmentally responsible personal actions; and



1 WHEREAS, Earth Day 2002 will provide an impetus for  
2 additional protection of the environment, and continued local,  
3 state, national, and international efforts will be required at an  
4 unprecedented level during the next decade in order to remedy the  
5 environmental problems that we face; now, therefore, be it

6 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
7 *concurring*, That April 22, 2002, is hereby declared to be  
8 “California Earth Day”; and be it further

9 *Resolved*, That the Legislature reaffirms its commitment to the  
10 fundamental principles that underlie the state’s environmental  
11 laws, including the protection of human health from  
12 environmental hazards through the prevention of environmental  
13 risks and the maintenance of health-based standards; the  
14 continuance of programs to safeguard air and water quality; the  
15 recycling and reuse of materials, whenever feasible, to reduce the  
16 economic and environmental costs of disposal, and to recapture  
17 the value of these materials for the state’s economy; the effective  
18 cleanup of pollution of the state’s land, air, and water resources;  
19 the preservation of natural ecosystems; and maintenance of the  
20 fundamental right of the public to know about environmental  
21 hazards and to fully participate in public decisions regarding the  
22 environment; and be it further

23 *Resolved*, That California recognizes the importance of the  
24 environment and encourages residents to include in their daily  
25 lives those activities that promote the goals of Earth Day 2002; and  
26 be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly shall transmit  
28 copies of this resolution to the Governor and to the Secretary of the  
29 Resources Agency and the Secretary for Environmental  
30 Protection.

