

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 10, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005—06 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 96

**Introduced by Assembly Member Saldana
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Frommer, Goldberg, Nunez,
Umberg, and Vargas)**

September 7, 2005

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 96—Relative to ~~registered nurse volunteers for Hurricane Katrina disaster relief. Tall Ships Festival 2008.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 96, as amended, Saldana. ~~Registered nurses: Hurricane Katrina: volunteer relief effort Tall Ships Festival 2008.~~

This measure would congratulate the host ports and related nonprofit organizers for their efforts relative to hosting the Tall Ships Festival 2008. The measure would invite the tall ships of the world, to the event, and to continue to visit California.

~~This measure would urge hospitals and corporate health care employers to support registered nurses who volunteer to provide nursing services as a result of Hurricane Katrina and any future disaster relief effort, and to assure registered nurses that they will return from their humanitarian mission to their original employment position without loss of benefits, and without penalty for leaving to volunteer for disaster relief.~~

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 *WHEREAS, Beginning in 1976, numerous tall ships from*
- 2 *around the world were invited to participate in the celebration of*

1 *our country's Bicentennial in tall ships festivals along the*
2 *eastern seaboard, and added greatly to the Bicentennial*
3 *celebration; and*

4 *WHEREAS, In 1986, 22 international tall ships prominently*
5 *participated in the Statue of Liberty Centennial celebration; and*

6 *WHEREAS, In 1992, numerous tall ships from around the*
7 *world sailed in the Columbus Quincentennial commemorating*
8 *the 500-year anniversary of Columbus' voyage to the New*
9 *World; and*

10 *WHEREAS, The eastern seaboard has regularly hosted*
11 *international tall ships festivals in the last 30 years, resulting in*
12 *increased historical appreciation of the maritime contributions to*
13 *our country and stimulation of local economies of the major*
14 *ports where the festivals are held; and*

15 *WHEREAS, In 1999, during California's Sesquicentennial*
16 *celebration, tall ships from maritime nations around the world*
17 *visited the California ports of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and*
18 *San Diego to participate in the Tall Ships Challenge and Festival*
19 *of Sail; and*

20 *WHEREAS, Beginning with California's Sesquicentennial in*
21 *1999, tall ships from the navies of many countries including the*
22 *Esmeralda (Chile), Gloria (Colombia), Guayas (Ecuador),*
23 *Amerigo Vespucci (Italy), Kaiwo Maru II (Japan), Nippon Maru*
24 *(Japan), Cuauhtemoc (Mexico), Europa (The Netherlands), Juan*
25 *Sebastián de Elcano (Spain), Batkishvna (Ukraine), and the*
26 *USCG Eagle (United States) have visited California's ports; and*

27 *WHEREAS, These foreign tall ships were joined in the*
28 *celebrations by other nongovernmental foreign tall ships, as well*
29 *as tall ships from California and other states; and*

30 *WHEREAS, Since 1999, the California ports of San Francisco,*
31 *Los Angeles, and San Diego have hosted two other gatherings of*
32 *tall ships from around the world in 2002 and 2005, that*
33 *commemorated and celebrated this state's rich maritime heritage*
34 *and the maritime culture shared by all nations bordering the*
35 *world's oceans; and*

36 *WHEREAS, These tall ships serve as floating educational*
37 *institutions and as ambassadors of good will for their nations;*
38 *and*

39 *WHEREAS, These visits strengthen the bonds of friendship*
40 *between California and the nations of visiting ships; and*

1 *WHEREAS, These tall ships events bring people from diverse*
2 *nations and cultures together with visiting sailors from across*
3 *the ocean in a shared sense of excitement that is truly unique in*
4 *joining appreciation for maritime history and traditions in*
5 *celebrations that are an extraordinary cross-cultural experience;*
6 *and*

7 *WHEREAS, These events have served to bring tall ships and*
8 *young sailors from North America and around the world to the*
9 *shores and harbors of the United States each year in friendly*
10 *international competition and in celebration of the enduring*
11 *values of teamwork, adventure, and courage that built a great*
12 *society in North America; and*

13 *WHEREAS, The visits of these tall ships increased California's*
14 *citizens', especially students, appreciation for California's rich*
15 *maritime history and traditions dating back to the earliest days*
16 *of its recorded history; and*

17 *WHEREAS, These visits received widespread national and*
18 *international media coverage and boosted California's status as*
19 *a worldwide, international, economic power; and*

20 *WHEREAS, These visits assisted the economies of the ports by*
21 *drawing large crowds to visit the tall ships, with average*
22 *attendance at each port between 300,000 and 500,000 visitors;*
23 *and*

24 *WHEREAS, California has seen an increase in foreign tall*
25 *ship visits as a result of the efforts of the sponsors of these*
26 *events, California port cities, the State Coastal Conservancy, and*
27 *the Legislature; and*

28 *WHEREAS, The San Diego Maritime Museum and the Los*
29 *Angeles Maritime Institute have joined together to host a tall*
30 *ships event once again in 2008; and*

31 *WHEREAS, In 2008, the great historic California ports cities*
32 *of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego will again serve*
33 *as hosts to these gatherings of tall ships that evoke the history of*
34 *California in the climactic phase of the heroic age of sail; now,*
35 *therefore, be it*

36 *RESOLVED, by the Assembly of the State of California, the*
37 *Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature of the State of*
38 *California commends the Ports of San Francisco, Los Angeles,*
39 *and San Diego for hosting these tall ships events; and be it*
40 *further*

1 *RESOLVED, That the Legislature of the State of California*
2 *congratulates the nonprofit organizers of the host ports, namely,*
3 *the San Diego Maritime Museum, the Los Angeles Maritime*
4 *Institute, and the San Francisco host committee on their efforts to*
5 *provide a warm California welcome to the tall ships of the Tall*
6 *Ships Festival 2008, and for their commitment to the important*
7 *work carried on by those tall ships; and be it further*

8 *RESOLVED, That the Legislature of the State of California*
9 *commends the State Coastal Conservancy for its steadfast*
10 *encouragement and financial support for these tall ships events*
11 *as part of its charter; and be it further*

12 *RESOLVED, That the Legislature of the State of California*
13 *invites the tall ships of the world to participate in the Tall Ships*
14 *Festival 2008, especially the tall ships of the navies of Argentina,*
15 *Belgium, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Italy, Japan,*
16 *Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden,*
17 *United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela, and that they continue to*
18 *visit California for the mutual benefits derived from these visits;*
19 *and be it further*

20 *RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit*
21 *copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate*
22 *distribution.*

23 ~~WHEREAS, The current national disaster caused by Hurricane~~
24 ~~Katrina has created a state of emergency, resulting in death,~~
25 ~~injury, and emotional trauma to thousands of residents of~~
26 ~~Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, many of whom are without~~
27 ~~adequate food, water, and medical care; and~~

28 ~~WHEREAS, An infusion of resources is necessary to prevent~~
29 ~~further trauma and loss of life; and~~

30 ~~WHEREAS, Registered nurses are essential for the provision~~
31 ~~of basic health care services for those displaced from hospitals~~
32 ~~and nursing homes in the disaster area, as well as those injured~~
33 ~~during and in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina; and~~

34 ~~WHEREAS, The vast majority of California registered nurses~~
35 ~~are employed in hospitals and skilled nursing facilities and are a~~
36 ~~major source of skilled professionals, experienced and competent~~
37 ~~to provide immediate nursing care; and~~

38 ~~WHEREAS, Registered nurses who desire to volunteer to meet~~
39 ~~a critical need for nursing care in the disaster area provide~~
40 ~~compassionate and necessary services and also gain disaster~~

1 ~~nursing experience that will enrich the registered nurse disaster~~
2 ~~response expertise in California; now, therefore, be it~~

3 ~~*Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*~~
4 ~~*thereof concurring, That the Legislature urges hospitals and*~~
5 ~~corporate health care employers to support registered nurses who~~
6 ~~volunteer to provide nursing services in this and in any future~~
7 ~~disaster relief effort; and be it further~~

8 ~~*Resolved, That these hospitals and corporate health care*~~
9 ~~employers should assure registered nurses that they will return~~
10 ~~from their humanitarian mission to their original employment~~
11 ~~position without loss of benefits, and without penalty for leaving~~
12 ~~to volunteer for disaster relief; and be it further~~

13 ~~*Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly distribute*~~
14 ~~copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.~~