

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 65

Introduced by Assembly Member Ma

July 9, 2007

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 65—Relative to the Region of Souss-Massa-Draa in the Kingdom of Morocco: sister-state relationship.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 65, as introduced, Ma. Region of Souss-Massa-Draa in the Kingdom of Morocco.

This measure would invite the region of Souss-Massa-Draa in the Kingdom of Morocco, to join California in a sister-state relationship.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The region of Souss-Massa-Draa in the Kingdom
2 of Morocco enjoys the benefits of being located along both the
3 Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts, which offers unique
4 opportunities for attracting foreign investment and economic
5 development in areas of agriculture, textiles, fertilizers, food and
6 food processing, auto component manufacturing, electronics
7 assembly, and information technology; and

8 WHEREAS, The State of California and the region of
9 Souss-Massa-Draa in the Kingdom of Morocco share many
10 geographical and topographical similarities, including scenic
11 beaches, regal mountains, temperate deserts, and significant rivers;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The region of Souss-Massa-Draa in the Kingdom
14 of Morocco has strong priorities in clean energy, the environment,
15 the film and movie industry, agriculture, and tourism; and

1 WHEREAS, The Kingdom of Morocco is one of California's
2 top 100 foreign markets and in 2005, California exported more
3 than \$630,000 to Morocco in goods including almonds, processed
4 tomatoes, and olives; and

5 WHEREAS, A sister-state relationship between the State of
6 California and the region of Souss-Massa-Draa in the Kingdom
7 of Morocco would facilitate the exchange of economic and cultural
8 ideas, promote mutual international trade and commerce, and
9 increase the potential for commercial relationships between small,
10 medium, and large companies in California and the region of
11 Souss-Massa-Draa in the Kingdom of Morocco; now, therefore,
12 be it

13 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
14 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature of California, on behalf
15 of the people of the State of California, extends to the people of
16 the region of Souss-Massa-Draa in the Kingdom of Morocco an
17 invitation to join California as a sister state in order to encourage
18 and facilitate mutually beneficial educational, economic, and
19 cultural exchanges; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges the Department of Food
21 and Agriculture to work with the region of Souss-Massa-Draa in
22 the Kingdom of Morocco to foster a strong, mutually beneficial
23 sister-state relationship; and be it further

24 *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges the California Travel and
25 Tourism Commission to cultivate and promote cultural exchanges
26 in an effort to increase awareness of the region of
27 Souss-Massa-Draa and the Kingdom of Morocco; and be it further

28 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit a copy
29 of this resolution to the Honorable President of the
30 Souss-Massa-Draa Regional Council, Aziz Akhannouch, and to
31 His Majesty, King Mohammed VI.