

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 39

Introduced by Assembly Member Caballero

February 26, 2009

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 39—Relative to children.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 39, as introduced, Caballero. Dia de los Ninos.

This measure would designate April 30, 2009, as El Dia de los Ninos: Children's Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Children's Day was first celebrated worldwide in
2 October 1953, under the sponsorship of International Union for
3 Child Welfare in Geneva, Switzerland. The idea of a universal
4 Children's Day was adopted by the United Nations General
5 Assembly in 1954 and takes place on November 20 annually; and
6 WHEREAS, Children's Day was established to encourage all
7 countries to institute a day, firstly to promote mutual exchange
8 and understanding among children and secondly to initiate action
9 to benefit and promote the welfare of the world's children; and
10 WHEREAS, The anniversary of the day when the United
11 Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights
12 of the Child in 1959 is November 20. The Convention on the Rights
13 of the Child was then signed on the same day in 1989, which has
14 since been ratified by 191 states; and
15 WHEREAS, In Japan, "Kodomo no Hi," Children's Day, is a
16 national holiday that takes place on May 5 as a day set aside to
17 respect children's personalities and to celebrate their happiness.

1 Families raise carp-shaped koinobori flags to represent the legend
2 where carp that swim upstream become dragons, because the flags
3 blowing in the wind look like carp swimming. Originally celebrated
4 as “Tango no Sekku,” Boy’s Day, on May 5 and “Hinamatusuri,”
5 Girl’s Day, on March 3, the holidays were merged in 1948; and

6 WHEREAS, In Thailand, Children’s Day is celebrated on the
7 second Saturday in January and organizations from both the
8 government and the private sector have celebration activities for
9 children, including entering the zoo or using the bus for free.
10 Thailand’s Prime Minister gives Children’s Day a unique motto
11 every year. On Children’s Day, the government house is open for
12 children to sit in the seat of the Prime Minister and the conference
13 room of parliament; and

14 WHEREAS, In New Zealand, Children’s Day is celebrated on
15 the first Sunday in March. It is a national, noncommercial day to
16 celebrate how special and important our children are; and

17 WHEREAS, In Mexico, Children’s Day or “El Dia del Nino,”
18 is celebrated on April 30 in recognition of their children who are
19 the future of their country; and

20 WHEREAS, Children represent the hopes and dreams of the
21 citizens of California and should be nurtured and invested in, in
22 order to preserve and enhance democracy, the American spirit,
23 and economic prosperity; and

24 WHEREAS, Latinos in California are the youngest and fastest
25 growing ethnic community in the state; 48 percent of all Californian
26 children are Hispanic or Latino. This community continues the
27 tradition of honoring their children on this day, and wishes to share
28 this tradition with the rest of the state; and

29 WHEREAS, The celebration of children in the Golden State
30 will provide an opportunity for children to express their dreams
31 and aspirations and find comfort and security in the support of
32 their family members and communities; now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
34 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates April 30, 2009,
35 as “El Dia de los Ninos: Children’s Day” and requests that the
36 State of California observes the day with appropriate ceremonies
37 and includes activities that focus on persuading children to express
38 their aspirations and dreams in life, including all members of the
39 family to promote greater communications, and helping children

- 1 develop confidence to become great leaders and members of
- 2 society.

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