

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 4, 2009

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 25, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

## Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 39

### Introduced by Assembly Member Caballero

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Ammiano, Anderson, Arambula, Bass, Beall, Bill Berryhill, Tom Berryhill, Blakeslee, Block, Blumenfield, Brownley, Buchanan, Charles Calderon, Carter, Chesbro, Conway, Cook, Coto, Davis, De Leon, DeVore, Emmerson, Eng, Evans, Feuer, Fletcher, Fong, Fuentes, Furutani, Gaines, Galgiani, Garrick, Gilmore, Hagman, Hall, Hayashi, Hernandez, Hill, Huber, Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Krekorian, Lieu, Logue, Bonnie Lowenthal, Ma, Mendoza, Miller, Monning, Nava, Nestande, John A. Perez, V. Manuel Perez, Portantino, Price, Ruskin, Salas, Saldana, Silva, Skinner, Smyth, Solorio, Audra Strickland, Swanson, Torlakson, Torres, Torrico, Tran, and Yamada)

February 26, 2009

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 39—Relative to children.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 39, as amended, 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 the International Union

1 for Child Welfare in Geneva, Switzerland. The idea of a universal  
2 Children’s Day was adopted by the United Nations General  
3 Assembly in 1954 and takes place on November 20 annually; and

4 WHEREAS, Children’s Day was established to encourage all  
5 countries to institute a day, firstly to promote mutual exchange  
6 and understanding among children and secondly to initiate action  
7 to benefit and promote the welfare of the world’s children; and

8 WHEREAS, The anniversary of the day when the United  
9 Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights  
10 of the Child in 1959 is November 20. The Convention on the Rights  
11 of the Child was then signed on the same day in 1989, which has  
12 since been ratified by 191 states; and

13 WHEREAS, Children’s Day observations in the United States  
14 predate both Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. In 1856, Reverend  
15 Charles H. Leonard, D.D., then pastor of the First Universalist  
16 Church of Chelsea, Massachusetts, set apart a Sunday for the  
17 dedication of children to the Christian life, and for the rededication  
18 of parents and guardians to bringing up their children in the  
19 Christian life. This service was first observed the second Sunday  
20 in June; and

21 WHEREAS, In 2007, Children’s Day was proclaimed by  
22 President George W. Bush as June 3; and

23 WHEREAS, In Japan, “Kodomo no Hi,” Children’s Day, is a  
24 national holiday that takes place on May 5 as a day set aside to  
25 respect children’s personalities and to celebrate their happiness.  
26 Families raise carp-shaped koinobori flags to represent the legend  
27 where carp that swim upstream become dragons, because the flags  
28 blowing in the wind look like carp swimming. Originally celebrated  
29 as “Tango no Sekku,” Boy’s Day, on May 5 and “Hinamatusuri,”  
30 Girl’s Day, on March 3, the holidays were merged in 1948; and

31 WHEREAS, In Thailand, Children’s Day is celebrated on the  
32 second Saturday in January and organizations from both the  
33 government and the private sector have celebration activities for  
34 children, including entering the zoo or using the bus for free.  
35 Thailand’s Prime Minister gives Children’s Day a unique motto  
36 every year. On Children’s Day, the government house is open for  
37 children to sit in the seat of the Prime Minister and the conference  
38 room of parliament; and

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

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

7 WHEREAS, Children represent the hopes and dreams of the  
8 citizens of California and should be nurtured and invested in, in  
9 order to preserve and enhance democracy, the American spirit,  
10 and economic prosperity; and

11 WHEREAS, Latinos in California are the youngest and fastest  
12 growing ethnic community in the state; 48 percent of all Californian  
13 children are Hispanic or Latino. This community continues the  
14 tradition of honoring their children on this day, and wishes to share  
15 this tradition with the rest of the state; and

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

20 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
21 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates April 30, 2009,  
22 as “El Dia de los Ninos: Children’s Day” and requests that the  
23 State of California observes the day with appropriate ceremonies  
24 and includes activities that focus on persuading children to express  
25 their aspirations and dreams in life, including all members of the  
26 family to promote greater communications, and helping children  
27 develop confidence to become great leaders and members of  
28 society.