

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 5

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 5

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 5—Relative to California Science Education Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State March 19, 2009.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 5, Torlakson. California Science Education Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of March 2009 as California Science Education Month, and would extend the Legislature's support to students of all ages who are interested in science.

WHEREAS, California is an intellectual center for advances in science through academic and industrial research, and California is also a leader in the computer and information sciences, life sciences, physical sciences, natural sciences, military sciences, environmental sciences, and agriculture sciences, having originated great innovation and progress in each of these fields; and

WHEREAS, The cycle of innovation in the sciences has brought great benefits to the State of California, including improvements to the physical health and living standards of Californians and the world at large, and improvements to the intellectual and economic health of the state; and

WHEREAS, California has become a world leader in scientific discovery in the disciplines of computer and information technology, clean technology, nanotechnology, medicine, biotechnology, and environmental science; and

WHEREAS, New jobs in California are growing most rapidly in areas that require strong foundations in science, engineering, and technology, and eight of the 10 fastest growing occupations in the United States are related to science, mathematics, or technology, with an expected increase of 2.2 million science- and engineering-related jobs by 2010; and

WHEREAS, California is experiencing a critical shortage of skilled American workers in scientific industries that is threatening our state's ability to compete in the global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, The state is now focused on ushering in the next generation of great scientific leaders by encouraging its youth to engage in this noble pursuit; and

WHEREAS, California needs to cultivate the scientific talents of all of its students, particularly those from groups that are underrepresented in science and technology, including women, minorities, and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Given the growing threat to America's preeminence in science and technology, celebrations of science and of science education,

such as the San Diego Science Festival and the Sally Ride Science Festival, and innovations in science classrooms across California are critical to raising student and public awareness of the dramatic impact science has on our lives, and to inspiring the next generation of scientific leaders; and

WHEREAS, The health and economic benefits provided to our state by the businesses and institutions involved in the full range of scientific industries are numerous; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature proclaims the month of March 2009 as California Science Education Month, and extends its support to students of all ages who are interested in science; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.