

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 12, 2009

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 1

Introduced by Assembly Member Blakeslee

January 22, 2009

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 1—Relative to natural catastrophes.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 1, as amended, Blakeslee. Earthquake damage: mitigation planning.

This measure would state the Legislature's support of the expedient development of mitigation efforts across the state by federal, *state*, and local governmental entities, in cooperation with private enterprises and individuals, to protect against earthquake damage.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The United States Geological Survey has predicted
2 an earthquake with a magnitude 6.7 or greater in California within
3 the next 30 years; and
4 WHEREAS, The Hayward Fault near San Francisco is predicted
5 to certainly rupture again with greater force than the 1989 Loma
6 Prieta earthquake; and
7 WHEREAS, On ~~October 15, 2009~~, *November 13, 2008*, the
8 Great California ShakeOut organized a drill where millions of
9 people in homes, schools, businesses, government offices, and
10 public places all over southern California practiced what to do

1 during an earthquake, and called the event the Great California
2 ShakeOut Drill; and

3 WHEREAS, Results of the Great California ShakeOut Drill
4 showed that a large earthquake in southern California would cost
5 approximately \$213 billion, including business interruption, and
6 could result in the death of approximately 1,800 people; and

7 WHEREAS, The last major earthquake on the Hayward Fault
8 was 140 years ago, and the last five earthquakes on this fault have
9 come, on average, 140 years apart; and

10 WHEREAS, Recent reports have confirmed that mitigation
11 techniques can greatly improve the structural stability of a building
12 and dramatically improve the safety of its occupants; and

13 WHEREAS, Mitigation against earthquake damage is
14 dramatically more cost-effective than repairing buildings after a
15 great earthquake, and economic loss from halted business and
16 interrupted services can also be avoided by retrofitting buildings
17 before an earthquake strikes; and

18 WHEREAS, The astronomical costs of repair that occur after a
19 devastating national disaster often fall on the government; now,
20 therefore, be it

21 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
22 *California, jointly*, That the Legislature of California strongly
23 supports the expedient development of mitigation efforts across
24 California by federal, *state*, and local governmental entities, in
25 cooperation with private enterprises and individuals, to protect
26 against earthquake damage that could result in a loss of life and a
27 dramatic lowering of California's economic status and vibrancy;
28 and be it further

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