

## Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 178

### RESOLUTION CHAPTER 159

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 178—Relative to state employee merit awards.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 14, 2010.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 178, Niello. State employee merit awards.

This measure would declare that merit award payments in specified amounts, authorized by the Department of Personnel Administration, are made to specified current or retired state employees whose proposals have resulted in annual savings and net revenue gain to the state.

WHEREAS, Section 19823 of the Government Code authorizes the Department of Personnel Administration to make awards to current or retired state employees who propose procedures or ideas that are subsequently adopted and placed in effect and result in eliminating or reducing state expenditures or improving state operations; and

WHEREAS, Any award granted under Section 19823 of the Government Code in excess of \$5,000 must be approved by concurrent resolution of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Lorraine Plummer of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation designed an electronic medical billing system to automatically calculate discounts for standardized health services as allocated by the California Medical Fee Schedule, which resulted in a first-year savings of \$76,615; and

WHEREAS, Randy Villarreal of the California Department of Food and Agriculture suggested that all marketed cotton in the San Joaquin Quality Cotton District carry the State Seed Code in lieu of bale and module tags, saving printing costs of the tags; the need for a state vehicle; and salaries and benefits for a Biologist, an Agricultural Technician II, and two Agricultural Aides, which resulted in a first-year savings of \$126,547; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Pertle of the Employment Development Department suggested automating the mailing process at the Work Opportunity Tax Credit processing center, resulting in reduced postage rates and decreased overtime which resulted in a first-year savings of \$139,468; and

WHEREAS, John Yessen and Eric Zimmerman of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation suggested using a folding and inserting machine to prepare outgoing correspondence mail from the Office of Selection and Standards which processes Correctional Officer applications and secured a state surplus machine, at no cost to the department, as an alternative to purchasing a new machine, resulting in

reduced workload volume, reduced staff hours, and elimination of the need to hire an outside agency for mass mailings, which resulted in a first-year savings of \$164,433; and

WHEREAS, The savings generated by implementation of these suggestions will continue to be realized on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, As a result of actual savings generated from the implementation of these suggestions, it is unnecessary to appropriate additional funds for payment of awards to these employees; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring,* That the Legislature of the State of California hereby declares that merit award payments, authorized by the five-member Merit Award Board and the Department of Personnel Administration, are hereby made in amounts up to and including 10 percent of the first-year savings generated by each suggestion, as follows:

- (a) To Lorraine Plummer in the amount of \$2,662.
- (b) To Randy Villarreal in the amount of \$7,547.
- (c) To Shirley Pertle in the amount of \$8,947.
- (d) To John Yessen and Eric Zimmerman in the amount of \$11,433, to be shared equally; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Controller and the Department of Personnel Administration.