

House Resolution

No. 26

Introduced by Assembly Member Eng

March 15, 2012

House Resolution No. 26—Relative to Rail Safety Culture Day.

1 WHEREAS, The State of California is a national leader on
2 safety, health, and environmental considerations; and

3 WHEREAS, The role of public transportation is growing
4 throughout the State of California, with Californians making over
5 1.4 billion transit trips each year; and

6 WHEREAS, The key to attracting and retaining ridership and
7 to the efficient operation of transportation is safety; and

8 WHEREAS, There is strong research and actual investigative
9 findings that prove that an increased organizational safety culture
10 can lead to reductions in injuries and even prevent accidents; and

11 WHEREAS, The fundamental traits of a safety management
12 system-based safety culture include leadership, problem
13 identification and resolution, personal accountability, improving
14 work processes, continuous learning, a respectful work
15 environment that encourages raising questions and concerns, and
16 effective communication; and

17 WHEREAS, A safety culture is inherently an accountable
18 culture, a learning culture, a reporting culture, a flexible culture,
19 and a just culture; and

20 WHEREAS, An imperative part of the Southern California
21 Regional Rail Authority's safety culture is the oversight of its
22 board of directors, which requires that each board member
23 understand the importance of his or her role in creating and
24 maintaining a safety culture and risk reduction strategy as it relates

1 to each operating system. Board members must be aware of human
2 and operating system failures and successes within each of their
3 respective areas of responsibility; and

4 WHEREAS, The Southern California Regional Rail Authority
5 (“Metrolink”) has taken the lead in implementing technology and
6 personnel practices to save lives, including the development of a
7 safety curriculum, with the assistance of the University of Southern
8 California, in order to increase the awareness and standardization
9 of safety practices; and

10 WHEREAS, Metrolink is hosting a Safety Summit on March
11 20, 2012, to provide the tools for Southern California leaders to
12 implement a safety culture in their own organizations; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That, the
15 Assembly recognizes the essential value and importance of
16 fostering a safety culture in all areas of transportation; and be it
17 further

18 *Resolved*, That every transportation agency and organization is
19 urged to undertake a thorough and comprehensive review of its
20 own safety culture; and be it further

21 *Resolved*, That Metrolink be commended for initiating a scrutiny
22 and promotion of safety culture within the railroad; and be it further

23 *Resolved*, That March 20, 2012, be declared Rail Safety Culture
24 Day by the Assembly; and be it further

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