

House Resolution

No. 26

Introduced by Assembly Member Eng

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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

1 identification and resolution, personal accountability, improving
2 work processes, continuous learning, a respectful work
3 environment that encourages raising questions and concerns, and
4 effective communication; and

5 WHEREAS, A safety culture is inherently an accountable
6 culture, a learning culture, a reporting culture, a flexible culture,
7 and a just culture; and

8 WHEREAS, An imperative part of the Southern California
9 Regional Rail Authority’s safety culture is the oversight of its
10 board of directors, which requires that each board member
11 understand the importance of his or her role in creating and
12 maintaining a safety culture and risk reduction strategy as it relates
13 to each operating system. Board members must be aware of human
14 and operating system failures and successes within each of their
15 respective areas of responsibility; and

16 WHEREAS, The Southern California Regional Rail Authority
17 (“Metrolink”) has taken the lead in implementing technology and
18 personnel practices to save lives, including the development of a
19 safety curriculum, with the assistance of the University of Southern
20 California, in order to increase the awareness and standardization
21 of safety practices; and

22 WHEREAS, Metrolink is hosting a Safety Summit on March
23 20, 2012, to provide the tools for Southern California leaders to
24 implement a safety culture in their own organizations; now,
25 therefore, be it

26 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That, the*
27 *Assembly recognizes the essential value and importance of*
28 *fostering a safety culture in all areas of transportation; and be it*
29 *further*

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

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

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

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

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