

House Resolution

No. 40

**Introduced by Assembly Member Bonilla
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August 16, 2012

House Resolution No. 40—Relative to women in sports.

1 WHEREAS, California sent 128 of the 530 athletes representing
2 the United States of America to the 30th Olympic Games, the 2012
3 London Olympics; and

4 WHEREAS, Of the total number of medals claimed by the
5 United States of America, Californians brought home more medals
6 than any other state; and

7 WHEREAS, For the first time in United States Olympic history,
8 women outnumbered men, 269 to 261; and

9 WHEREAS, Women comprised the oldest and the youngest
10 athletes in the United States’ Olympics delegation. The oldest was
11 a 54-year-old equestrian named Karen O’Connor, and the youngest
12 was a 15-year-old swimmer named Katie Ledecky; and

13 WHEREAS, Nearly three months after the 40th anniversary of
14 Title IX, American women Olympians were more numerous than
15 American men and more decorated than American men on the
16 track, in the ring, on the court, in the pool, in the gymnastics arena,
17 and even on beach sand; and

18 WHEREAS, As American women dominated the United States
19 medal count, commentators dubbed the London Olympic Games
20 the “Title IX Olympics,” after the four-decade-old American law
21 that ensured young women would have equal access to athletic
22 training as their male counterparts. Many saw these games as
23 vindication for Title IX, and as proof that such a commitment can

1 deliver measurable results: 58 of the United States' 104 medals
2 were awarded to women, and of the 46 United States' gold medals,
3 women or womens' teams won 29 of them; and

4 WHEREAS, Scott Blackmun, the chief executive officer of the
5 United States Olympic Committee, said, "Title IX really gave the
6 U.S. a head start in having a national commitment to make sure
7 that young women are getting an opportunity to be involved in
8 sport. The rest of the world is clearly doing the same thing, so we
9 are glad we got ahead of the curve"; and

10 WHEREAS, Every country participating in the Olympics was
11 represented by at least one woman for the first time in Olympic
12 history. Qatar, Brunei, and Saudi Arabia, traditionally represented
13 solely by men, included women in their London delegations; and

14 WHEREAS, This advancement is significant not only to the
15 women of those three countries, but to women all over the world;
16 now, therefore be it

17 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the
18 Assembly commemorates the 40th anniversary of Title IX,
19 commends the movement toward increased equality and fair
20 treatment of female athletes, and praises the goals of greater
21 opportunities in sports for girls and young women in California;
22 and be it further

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