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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

House Resolution

No. 4

**Introduced by Assembly Members Galgiani and Valadao
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alejo, Bill Berryhill, Hill, Ma,
Mendoza, Olsen, Perea, and Yamada)**

January 27, 2011

House Resolution No. 4—Relative to California Agriculture Day.

1 WHEREAS, March 23, 2011, is designated as California
2 Agriculture Day, a day of celebration to commemorate agriculture’s
3 vital role in keeping Californians nourished and the state’s
4 economy ranked as the eighth largest in the world; and

5 *WHEREAS, The 2011 theme of California Agriculture Day is*
6 *“Agriculture Drives California” to recognize the contribution*
7 *agriculture makes to the California economy; and*

8 WHEREAS, California’s agricultural community provides a
9 vital infrastructure that aids in the exclusion and early detection
10 of plant and animal pests and diseases that impact public health,
11 the environment, and commerce; and

12 WHEREAS, For approximately 62 consecutive years, California
13 has been the number one agricultural state in the nation, producing
14 more than 350 crop and livestock products and accounting for
15 approximately 50 percent of the nation’s supply of fruits,
16 vegetables, and nuts; and

17 WHEREAS, The inexhaustible efforts of approximately 850,000
18 farmworkers have contributed greatly to the success of the industry;
19 and

1 WHEREAS, With less than 1 percent of California’s population
2 engaged in farming and agriculture, each agricultural worker today
3 provides for more than 100 other people, compared to just 13 in
4 1947; and

5 WHEREAS, Today’s agricultural industry offers over 200
6 challenging and rewarding career opportunities, from on-farm
7 cultivation, to food science and engineering; and

8 WHEREAS, Over the past five decades, advances in production
9 agriculture have resulted in a drop in consumer spending on food
10 products from 24 percent of disposable income in 1949 to
11 approximately 9 percent today; and

12 WHEREAS, California is the nation’s leader in agricultural
13 exports, shipping more than 12 billion dollars worth of food and
14 agricultural commodities to continents ranging from Europe to
15 Asia, and from Africa to South America; and

16 WHEREAS, California’s agricultural industry constantly seeks
17 to incorporate the latest scientific and technological production
18 and marketing techniques to meet the demands of changing
19 consumer needs and complex world markets; and

20 WHEREAS, Government-industry partnerships are continually
21 being developed to improve quality and ensure safe handling
22 practices on the farm, in transit, and during processing; and

23 WHEREAS, “California Grown” is a public-private partnership
24 campaign that emphasizes our strong ties to the land and our
25 neighbors, and our desire to restore pride in our homegrown
26 products and our quality of work; and

27 WHEREAS, A broad approach to agricultural education is vital
28 to ensure that California agriculture continues to flourish; and

29 WHEREAS, The California “5 A Day—For Better Health”
30 campaign, launched in 1988, was the precursor for the national “5
31 A Day” program, which spreads the message that healthy eating
32 through the consumption of fruits and vegetables can reduce the
33 risk of heart disease and cancer by as much as 30 percent; and

34 WHEREAS, It is appropriate for all Californians to recognize
35 our farmers, farmworkers, and others involved in providing such
36 a bounty to our nation and the entire world; now, therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That it takes*
38 *great pleasure in honoring the men and women of California*
39 *agriculture for their dedication and productivity by observing the*
40 *week of ~~March 16 to March 22, March 13 to March 19, 2011,~~*

1 inclusive, as National Agriculture Week, and ~~Tuesday, March 22,~~
2 *Wednesday, March 23*, 2011, as California Agriculture Day; and
3 be it further
4 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
5 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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