

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 119

Introduced by Assembly Members Galgiani and Valadao

(Principal coauthors: Senators Cannella and Rubio)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bill Berryhill, Hill, Ma, Mendoza, Olsen, Perea, ~~and Yamada~~ Yamada, Achadjian, Alejo, Allen, Ammiano, Atkins, Beall, Block, Blumenfield, Bonilla, Bradford, Brownley, Buchanan, Butler, Charles Calderon, Campos, Carter, Cedillo, Chesbro, Conway, Cook, Davis, Dickinson, Donnelly, Eng, Feuer, Fong, Fuentes, Beth Gaines, Gatto, Gordon, Grove, Hagman, Halderman, Hayashi, Roger Hernández, Huber, Hueso, Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Knight, Lara, Logue, Mansoor, Miller, Mitchell, Monning, Morrell, Nielsen, Pan, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Portantino, Silva, Skinner, Smyth, Solorio, Swanson, Torres, Wagner, Wieckowski, and Williams)

(Coauthor: Senator Berryhill)

February 29, 2012

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 119—Relative to California Agriculture Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 119, as amended, Galgiani. California Agriculture Day.

This measure would recognize the week of March 4, 2012, to March 10, 2012, inclusive, as National Agriculture Week, and would designate March 21, 2012, as California Agriculture Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, March 21, 2012, is designated as California
2 Agriculture Day, a day of celebration to commemorate agriculture's
3 importance in our daily lives, its vital role in keeping Californians
4 nourished and its role in keeping the state's economy ranked as
5 the eighth largest in the world; and

6 WHEREAS, The 2012 theme of California Agriculture Day is
7 "Know Your California Farmer" to encourage Californians to
8 know and celebrate farmers who grow the food we enjoy and share
9 with others; and

10 WHEREAS, For more than 60 consecutive years, California
11 has been the number one agricultural state in the nation, producing
12 more than 400 crop and livestock products and accounting for
13 approximately 50 percent of the nation's supply of fruits,
14 vegetables, and nuts; and

15 WHEREAS, The inexhaustible efforts of millions of
16 farmworkers have contributed greatly to the success of the
17 agricultural industry; and

18 WHEREAS, California's agricultural community relies on a
19 vital infrastructure that aids in the exclusion and early detection
20 of plant and animal pests and diseases that impact public health,
21 the environment, and commerce; and

22 WHEREAS, With less than 1 percent of California's population
23 engaging in farming and agriculture, each agricultural worker
24 today provides for more than 100 other people, compared to just
25 13 in 1947; and

26 WHEREAS, Today's agricultural industry offers over 300
27 challenging and rewarding career opportunities, from on-farm
28 cultivation to food science and engineering; and

29 WHEREAS, Over the past five decades, advances in agricultural
30 production have resulted in a drop in consumer spending on food
31 products from 21 percent of disposable income in 1949 to
32 approximately 9 percent today; and

33 WHEREAS, California is the nation's leader in agricultural
34 exports, shipping more than \$14 billion worth of food and
35 agricultural commodities around the world; and

36 WHEREAS, California's agricultural industry constantly seeks
37 to incorporate the latest scientific and technological production
38 and marketing techniques to meet the demands of changing
39 consumer needs and complex world markets; and

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

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

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

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

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

18 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
19 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes and honors
20 the men and women of California agriculture for their dedication
21 and productivity by observing the week of March 4, 2012, to March
22 10, 2012, inclusive, as National Agriculture Week, and designating
23 Wednesday, March 21, 2012, as California Agriculture Day; and
24 be it further

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