

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 2011

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 10

**Introduced by Senator Rubio
(Coauthor: Senator Dutton)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bill Berryhill, Blumenfield, Huffman,
Monning, Portantino, Smyth, and Swanson)

February 14, 2011

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 10—Relative to West Nile Virus
and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 10, as amended, Rubio. West Nile Virus and Mosquito and
Vector Control Awareness Week.

This measure would declare April 24 through April 30, 2011, as West
Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne disease that
2 can result in debilitating cases of meningitis and encephalitis and
3 death to humans, horses, avian species, and other wildlife; and
4 WHEREAS, In 2010, West Nile virus resulted in five human
5 deaths in California and ~~107~~ 109 individuals in 17 counties tested
6 positive for the virus, of which 71 developed neuroinvasive disease;
7 and
8 WHEREAS, The State Department of Public Health and the
9 federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predict West
10 Nile virus will again pose a public health threat in California in
11 2011; and

1 WHEREAS, Adequately funded mosquito and vector control,
2 disease surveillance, and public awareness programs, coupled with
3 best management practices on public and private lands, are the
4 best ways to prevent outbreaks of West Nile virus and other
5 diseases borne by mosquitoes and other vectors; and

6 WHEREAS, Mosquitoes and other vectors, including, but not
7 limited to, Africanized honeybees, rats, fleas, and flies, continue
8 to be a source of human suffering, illness, death, and public
9 nuisance in California and around the world; and

10 WHEREAS, Excess numbers of mosquitoes and other vectors
11 spread diseases, reduce enjoyment of both public and private
12 outdoor living spaces, reduce property values, hinder outdoor work,
13 and reduce livestock productivity; and

14 WHEREAS, Professional mosquito and vector control based on
15 scientific research has made great advances in reducing mosquito
16 and vector populations and the diseases they transmit; and

17 WHEREAS, Established mosquito- and vector-borne diseases
18 such as plague, Lyme disease, and encephalitis, and new and
19 emerging vector-borne diseases such as hantavirus, arenavirus,
20 babesiosis, and ehrlichiosis cause illness and sometimes death
21 every year in California; and

22 WHEREAS, Mosquito and vector control districts throughout
23 the State of California work closely with the United States
24 Environmental Protection Agency and the State Department of
25 Public Health to reduce pesticide risks to humans, animals, and
26 the environment while protecting human health from mosquito-
27 and vector-borne diseases and nuisance attacks; and

28 WHEREAS, The public's awareness of the health benefits
29 associated with safe, professionally applied mosquito and vector
30 control methods will support these efforts, as well as motivate the
31 state and the public to eliminate mosquito and vector breeding
32 sites on public and private property; and

33 WHEREAS, Educational programs have been developed to
34 include schools, civic groups, private industry, and government
35 agencies, in order to meet the public's need for information about
36 West Nile virus, other diseases, and mosquito and vector biology
37 and control; and

38 WHEREAS, Public awareness can result in reduced production
39 of mosquitoes and other vectors on residential, commercial, and
40 public lands by responsible parties, avoidance of the bites of

1 mosquitoes and other vectors when the risk of West Nile virus and
2 other disease transmission is high, detection of human cases of
3 mosquito- and vector-borne diseases that may otherwise be
4 misdiagnosed for lack of appropriate laboratory testing, and the
5 formation of mosquito or vector control agencies where needed;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Public awareness can result in action to provide
8 adequate funding for existing mosquito and vector control agencies
9 or to create control agencies in areas where there are no existing
10 controls; and

11 WHEREAS, West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control
12 Awareness Week will increase the public's awareness of the threat
13 of West Nile virus and other diseases and the activities of the
14 various mosquito and vector research and control agencies working
15 to minimize the health threat within California, and will highlight
16 the educational programs currently available; and

17 WHEREAS, The Mosquito and Vector Control Association of
18 California has designated the week of April 24 through April 30,
19 2011, as West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control
20 Awareness Week in the State of California; now, therefore, be it

21 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
22 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby declares that the
23 week of April 24 through April 30, 2011, be designated as West
24 Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week;
25 and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit a copy of
27 this resolution to the Governor, State Public Health Officer, and
28 the author for appropriate distribution.