

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 12

**Introduced by Assembly Member Ian Calderon
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bloom, Brown, Gomez, Levine,
Waldron, and Wilk)**

February 5, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 12—Relative to arts education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 12, as introduced, Ian Calderon. Arts Education Month: March 2013.

This measure would declare March 2013 as Arts Education Month, would encourage all elected officials to participate with their educational communities in celebrating the arts, and would urge all residents to become interested in and give full support to quality school arts programs for children and youth.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Arts education, which includes dance, music,
2 theatre, and the visual arts, is an essential and integral part of basic
3 education for all pupils in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grades
4 1 to 12, inclusive; and
5 WHEREAS, The arts are crucial to achieving a state educational
6 policy that is devoted to the teaching of basic academic skills and
7 lifelong learning capacities with the goal of truly preparing all
8 children for success after high school regardless of gender, age,
9 economic status, physical ability, or learning ability; and
10 WHEREAS, A systematic, substantive, and sequential visual
11 and performing arts curriculum addresses and develops ways of

1 thinking, questioning, expression, and learning that complement
2 learning in other core subjects, but that is unique in what it has to
3 offer; and

4 WHEREAS, Pupils benefit from arts learning in the areas of
5 cultural understanding, readiness for learning and creative thinking,
6 cognitive outcomes, emotional intelligence and expression, social
7 interaction and collaboration, and preparation for the workplace
8 and lifelong learning; and

9 WHEREAS, Arts education in California is mandated for pupils
10 in grades 1 to 12, inclusive, by Sections 51210 and 51220 of the
11 Education Code to provide that the adopted course of study shall
12 include instruction in “[v]isual and performing arts, including
13 instruction in the subjects of dance, music, theatre, and visual arts,
14 aimed at the development of aesthetic appreciation and the skills
15 of creative expression”; and

16 WHEREAS, The arts are recognized as part of a quality
17 education, and the University of California and the California State
18 University have instituted a policy that includes visual and
19 performing arts as college preparatory subjects for all high school
20 pupils wishing to enter California’s institutions of higher education;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Many national and state professional arts education
23 associations hold celebrations in the month of March, giving
24 California schools a unique opportunity to focus on the value of
25 the arts for all pupils, to foster cross-cultural understanding, to
26 give recognition to the state’s outstanding young artists, and to
27 enhance public support for this essential part of the curriculum;
28 now, therefore, be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
30 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims the month of
31 March 2013 as Arts Education Month and encourages all elected
32 officials to participate with their educational communities in
33 celebrating the arts with meaningful activities and programs for
34 pupils, teachers, and the public that demonstrate learning and
35 understanding in the visual and performing arts, and urges all
36 residents to become interested in and give full support to quality
37 school arts programs for children and youth; and be it further

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 2 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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