

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 11, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 13

Introduced by Assembly Member Pan

February 11, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 13—Relative to the 25th Annual State Scientist Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 13, as amended, Pan. 25th Annual State Scientist Day.

This measure would declare ~~May 13, 15~~, 2013, as the 25th Annual State Scientist Day, as a tribute to the dedication and professionalism of the state scientists who work on behalf of all the residents of California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The state employs nearly 3,000 professional
2 scientists in over 30 state departments working in more than 230
3 scientific classifications; and

4 WHEREAS, State scientists hold graduate degrees in virtually
5 every scientific discipline, including nematology, virology,
6 seismology, epidemiology, toxicology, and many others; and

7 WHEREAS, State scientists are represented by the California
8 Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS), which is dedicated
9 to professionalism, independence, responsible advocacy, and
10 ensuring that state scientists receive fair pay and benefits for their
11 important work; and

12 WHEREAS, The Governor wrote in October 2007: "I value the
13 dedication and work of the State's scientists, and I am concerned

1 that salaries for this group may have fallen behind those of
2 comparable workers” and that he wants to ensure “that the State
3 is moving in the direction of achieving fair and equitable
4 compensation for the ~~scientists;~~” *scientists*”; and

5 WHEREAS, The work of state scientists protects the public
6 from life-threatening diseases, safeguards our wildlife and abundant
7 natural resources, and protects our air and water from toxic waste
8 and pollution; and

9 WHEREAS, State scientists are required to make critical
10 decisions every day based on rigorous scientific factfinding, and
11 these decisions ultimately impact the lives and property of all
12 Californians; and

13 WHEREAS, If this state loses its scientific expertise, the state
14 will go unarmed in the battles against greenhouse gas emissions,
15 air pollution, and the overall protection of children’s health,
16 according to a 2006 California Environmental Protection Agency
17 report; and

18 WHEREAS, State scientists perform important work in the areas
19 of infectious disease prevention, oil spill prevention and cleanup,
20 public health drinking water monitoring, the protection of
21 agricultural crops, brownfield mitigation, chemical and radiological
22 disaster response, and much more; and

23 WHEREAS, CAPS cosponsors the Sacramento Regional Science
24 and Engineering Fair, one of California’s 14 regional science and
25 engineering fairs, serving hundreds of middle and high schools in
26 10 California counties; and

27 WHEREAS, State scientists host an annual State Scientist Day
28 at the State Capitol to increase public awareness and recognition
29 of the significant contributions made by scientists working in state
30 government while entertaining and educating over 3,500
31 elementary school students with fun, hands-on science exhibits;
32 and

33 WHEREAS, State Scientist Day has sparked an interest in
34 science for thousands of California schoolchildren, legislators,
35 state employees, and members of the public, who attend the special
36 event; now, therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
38 *thereof concurring, That May 13, 15, 2013, shall be recognized*
39 *as the 25th Annual State Scientist Day, and that this day shall be*
40 *a tribute to the dedication and professionalism of the state scientists*

1 who work on behalf of all the residents of California; and be it
2 further
3 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
4 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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