

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 21**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Salas**

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Allen, Ammiano, Atkins, Bigelow, Bloom, Blumenfeld, Bocanegra, Bonilla, Bonta, Bradford, Brown, Buchanan, Ian Calderon, Campos, Chau, Chávez, Chesbro, Conway, Cooley, Dahle, Daly, Dickinson, Donnelly, Eggman, Fong, Fox, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Garcia, Gatto, Gordon, Gray, Grove, Hall, Harkey, Roger Hernández, Holden, Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Linder, Logue, Maienschein, Mansoor, Medina, Mitchell, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Nestande, Olsen, Pan, Patterson, Perea, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk, Quirk-Silva, Rendon, Skinner, Stone, Ting, Torres, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wieckowski, Wilk, Williams, and Yamada)*

February 20, 2013

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 21—Relative to West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 21, as amended, Salas. West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week.

This measure would declare the week of April 21, 2013, through April 27, 2013, 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 2012, West Nile virus resulted in 19 human  
5 deaths in California and over 470 individuals in 31 counties tested  
6 positive for the virus, of which over 300 developed neuroinvasive  
7 disease; 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 2013; and

12 WHEREAS, Adequately funded mosquito and vector control,  
13 disease surveillance, and public awareness programs, coupled with  
14 best management practices on public and private lands, are the  
15 best ways to prevent outbreaks of West Nile virus and other  
16 diseases borne by mosquitoes and other vectors; and

17 WHEREAS, Mosquitoes and other vectors, including, but not  
18 limited to, ticks, Africanized honeybees, rats, fleas, and flies,  
19 continue to be a source of human suffering, illness, and death, and  
20 a public nuisance in California and around the world; and

21 WHEREAS, Excess numbers of mosquitoes and other vectors  
22 spread diseases, reduce enjoyment of both public and private  
23 outdoor living spaces, reduce property values, hinder outdoor work,  
24 and reduce livestock productivity; and

25 WHEREAS, Professional mosquito and vector control based  
26 on scientific research has made great advances in reducing  
27 mosquito and vector populations and the diseases they transmit;  
28 and

29 WHEREAS, Established mosquito- and vector-borne diseases  
30 such as plague, Lyme disease, and encephalitis, and new and  
31 emerging vector-borne diseases such as hantavirus, arenavirus,  
32 babesiosis, and ehrlichiosis cause illness and sometimes death  
33 every year in California; and

34 WHEREAS, Mosquito and vector control districts throughout  
35 the State of California work closely with the United States  
36 Environmental Protection Agency and the State Department of  
37 Public Health to reduce pesticide risks to humans, animals, and  
38 the environment while protecting human health from mosquito-  
39 and vector-borne diseases and nuisance attacks; and

1 WHEREAS, The public’s awareness of the health benefits  
2 associated with safe, professionally applied mosquito and vector  
3 control methods will support these efforts, as well as motivate the  
4 state and the public to eliminate mosquito and vector breeding  
5 sites on public and private property; and

6 WHEREAS, Educational programs have been developed to  
7 include schools, civic groups, private industry, and government  
8 agencies, in order to meet the public’s need for information about  
9 West Nile virus, other diseases, and mosquito and vector biology  
10 and control; and

11 WHEREAS, Public awareness can result in reduced production  
12 of mosquitoes and other vectors on residential, commercial, and  
13 public lands by responsible parties, avoidance of the bites of  
14 mosquitoes and other vectors when the risk of West Nile virus and  
15 other disease transmission is high, detection of human cases of  
16 mosquito- and vector-borne diseases that may otherwise be  
17 misdiagnosed for lack of appropriate laboratory testing, and the  
18 formation of mosquito or vector control agencies where needed;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Public awareness can result in action to provide  
21 adequate funding for existing mosquito and vector control agencies  
22 or to create control agencies in areas where there are no existing  
23 controls; and

24 WHEREAS, West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control  
25 Awareness Week will increase the public’s awareness of the threat  
26 of West Nile virus and other diseases and the activities of the  
27 various mosquito and vector research and control agencies working  
28 to minimize the health threat within California, and will highlight  
29 the educational programs currently available; and

30 WHEREAS, The Mosquito and Vector Control Association of  
31 California has designated the week of April 21 to April 27, 2013,  
32 inclusive, as West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control  
33 Awareness Week in the State of California; now, therefore, be it

34 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
35 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby declares that the  
36 week of April 21 to April 27, 2013, inclusive, be designated as  
37 West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness  
38 Week; and be it further

- 1     *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit a copy
- 2     of this resolution to the Governor, the State Public Health Officer,
- 3     and the author for appropriate distribution.

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