

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 18, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 29

Introduced by Assembly Members Eggman and Olsen

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Atkins, Dahle, Pan, Quirk, and Yamada Yamada, Achadjian, Alejo, Allen, Ammiano, Bigelow, Bloom, Blumenfield, Bocanegra, Bonilla, Bradford, Brown, Buchanan, Ian Calderon, Campos, Chau, Chávez, Chesbro, Conway, Cooley, Daly, Donnelly, Fong, Fox, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Garcia, Gatto, Gomez, Gordon, Gorell, Gray, Grove, Hagman, Hall, Harkey, Roger Hernández, Holden, Hueso, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Logue, Maienschein, Mansoor, Medina, Melendez, Mitchell, Morrell, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Patterson, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk-Silva, Rendon, Salas, Stone, Torres, Wagner, Weber, Wieckowski, Wilk, and Williams)

(Coauthors: Senators Berryhill, Cannella, Galgiani, Lieu, and Wolk)

March 4, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 29—Relative to California Agriculture Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 29, as amended, Eggman. California Agriculture Day.

This measure would recognize the week of March 17, 2013, to March 23, 2013, inclusive, as National Agriculture Week, and would designate March 20, 2013, as California Agriculture Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, March 20, 2013, is designated as California
- 2 Agriculture Day, a day of celebration to commemorate agriculture's

1 importance in our daily lives, its vital role in keeping Californians
2 nourished, and its role in keeping the state’s economy ranked as
3 the ninth largest in the world; and

4 WHEREAS, The 2013 theme of California Agriculture Day is
5 “The California Advantage” to discover all of the advantages that
6 make California’s agriculture the most productive in the nation;
7 and

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

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

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

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

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

27 WHEREAS, Over the past seven decades, advances in
28 agricultural production have resulted in a drop in consumer
29 spending on food products from 23 percent of disposable income
30 in 1947 to approximately 10 percent today; and

31 WHEREAS, California is the nation’s leader in agricultural
32 exports, shipping more than \$16 billion worth of food and
33 agricultural commodities around the world in 2011; and

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

38 WHEREAS, Public-private partnerships are continually being
39 developed to improve quality and ensure safe handling practices
40 on the farm, in transit, and during processing; and

1 WHEREAS, California consumers say that it is important to
 2 them to purchase foods grown in California and that “California
 3 Grown” is more important to them today than in previous years,
 4 and in the last decade, California consumers have increased support
 5 of farmers’ markets, community supported agricultural programs,
 6 and farm-to-school programs; and

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

9 WHEREAS, California will lose an estimated 500,000 acres of
 10 agricultural land by 2050, of which 300,000 acres is highly
 11 productive irrigated cropland, and thus California should continue
 12 to work to conserve and preserve California’s agricultural heritage;
 13 and

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

17 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
 18 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature recognizes and honors
 19 the men and women of California agriculture for their dedication
 20 and productivity by observing the week of March 17, 2013, to
 21 March 23, 2013, inclusive, as National Agriculture Week, and
 22 designating Wednesday, March 20, 2013, as California Agriculture
 23 Day; and be it further

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

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 28 **CORRECTIONS:**
 29 **Heading—Coauthors—Line 8.**
 30 _____