

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 25, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 18, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 29**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Eggman and Olsen**

*(Principal coauthors: Senators Cannella and Galgiani)*

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Atkins, Dahle, Pan, Quirk, 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, Hueso~~, Lieu, and Wolk)**

March 4, 2013

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

6 WHEREAS, The 2013 theme of California Agriculture Day is  
7 "The California Advantage" to discover all of the advantages that  
8 make California's agriculture the most productive in the nation;  
9 and

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

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

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

22 WHEREAS, With less than 1 percent of California's population  
23 engaging in farming and agriculture, each agricultural worker  
24 today provides for more than 100 other people, compared to just  
25 13 in 1947; and

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

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

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

36 WHEREAS, California's agricultural industry constantly seeks  
37 to incorporate the latest scientific and technological production

1 and marketing techniques to meet the demands of changing  
2 consumer needs and complex world markets; and

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

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

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

14 WHEREAS, California will lose an estimated 500,000 acres of  
15 agricultural land by 2050, of which 300,000 acres is highly  
16 productive irrigated cropland, and thus California should continue  
17 to work to conserve and preserve California’s agricultural heritage;  
18 and

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

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

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