

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 6, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 31

Introduced by Assembly Member V. Manuel Pérez

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

(Principal coauthor: Senator Lara)

March 7, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 31—Relative to Cinco de Mayo Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 31, as amended, V. Manuel Pérez. Cinco de Mayo Week.

This measure would proclaim May 1 through May 7, 2013, as Cinco de Mayo Week, and would urge all Californians to join in celebrating Cinco de Mayo.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Cinco de Mayo, or the fifth of May, is
- 2 memorialized as a significant date in the history of California and

1 Mexico in recognition of the Latinos of California who offered
2 their support and risked their lives to defend freedom and
3 democracy in both the United States and Mexico; and

4 WHEREAS, Since the beginning of the American Civil War,
5 Latinos in California have shown their support for the institutions
6 of freedom and democracy by joining the forces of the United
7 States Army, Cavalry, and Navy, risking their lives to defend free
8 institutions; and

9 WHEREAS, Those who were unable to join the Armed Forces
10 of the Union freely offered their support for President Abraham
11 Lincoln; and

12 WHEREAS, The American Civil War, making it impossible
13 for the United States to enforce the Monroe Doctrine, provided an
14 opportunity for the Emperor of France, Napoléon III, to establish
15 a monarchy in Mexico, thereby attempting to destroy democratic
16 institutions that derive their power from the consent of the
17 governed; and

18 WHEREAS, Latinos, including Californios, also offered their
19 support and risked their lives in Mexico to defend freedom and
20 democracy in that country by joining the armed forces of that sister
21 republic; and

22 WHEREAS, Those who were unable to travel to Mexico to
23 physically defend free institutions freely offered their support to
24 President Benito Juárez by organizing over 122 Juntas Patrióticas
25 Mexicanas within California to raise funds that were sent every
26 month from California to Mexico to defray the costs of war in that
27 country; and

28 WHEREAS, Cinco de Mayo serves to remind us that the
29 foundation of any nation and our state is its people, in their spirit
30 and courage in the face of adversity, in the strength of their drive
31 to achieve self-determination, and in their willingness to sacrifice
32 even life itself in the pursuit of freedom and liberty; and

33 WHEREAS, Cinco de Mayo offers an opportunity to reflect on
34 the courage and achievements not only of the Mexican forces at
35 Puebla, but also on the courage and achievements of Latinos here
36 in California; and

37 WHEREAS, Achievements by Latinos in America and
38 California include contributions to all facets of our community;
39 and

1 WHEREAS, Latino voters continue to go to the polls in record
2 numbers and influence the entrance of newly elected Latino public
3 officials in both the Democratic and Republican parties and issues
4 encompassing providing affordable housing, investing in our
5 children, ensuring that higher education is affordable and
6 accessible, creating good paying jobs for working families, and
7 improving the overall quality of life for all Californians; and

8 WHEREAS, California’s Latinos have contributed to the state’s
9 culture and society through their many achievements in music,
10 food, dance, poetry, literature, architecture, entertainment, sports,
11 and a broad spectrum of artistic expression; and

12 WHEREAS, Latinos in California have challenged the frontiers
13 of social and economic justice, thereby improving the working
14 conditions and lives of countless Californians; and

15 WHEREAS, Latino entrepreneurs in the United States are the
16 fastest growing group of business owners in our economy; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2001, the Latino Caucus saw a need to recognize
18 and honor distinguished Latinos for their contributions and
19 dedication to California and the United States’ economy and
20 cultural life with the annual Latino Spirit Awards. These recipients
21 are outstanding individuals who have greatly contributed to the
22 wonderful music, poetry, literature, journalism, and entertainment
23 of California, the United States, and the world; now, therefore, be
24 it

25 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
26 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature urges all Californians to
27 join in celebrating Cinco de Mayo, the historic day to honor the
28 brave spirit of Latinos from California who defended freedom and
29 democracy in the United States during the Civil War and in Mexico
30 during the French Intervention, and the Latino noncombatants who
31 freely gave their votes and resources to defend free institutions,
32 and the Latinos of California who fought to defend the freedom
33 of the United States in every armed conflict from the Spanish
34 American War to the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan;
35 and be it further

36 *Resolved*, That the Legislature declares May 1 through May 7,
37 2013, as Cinco de Mayo Week; 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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