

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 9

Introduced by Assembly Member Dahle
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bigelow and Logue)
(Coauthors: Senators Berryhill and Gaines)

January 31, 2013

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 9—Relative to the federal Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 9, as introduced, Dahle. Federal Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000: extension.

This measure would urge the 113th Congress to reauthorize and fund the federal Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, From 1908 to 2000, counties in the United States
2 received 25 percent of the revenues generated on national forest
3 lands in lieu of lost tax revenues that could have been generated
4 had these lands remained in private hands; and
5 WHEREAS, In the 1990s, the volume and value of timber
6 harvested on national forest lands was dramatically reduced, which
7 led Congress to enact the federal Secure Rural Schools and
8 Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 7101
9 et seq.), which provided a six-year guarantee payment option that
10 was independent of the revenue generated on the national forest
11 lands; and

1 WHEREAS, The Secure Rural Schools and Community
2 Self-Determination Act of 2000, which has been extended several
3 times, most recently by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st
4 Century Act (MAP-21) (Public Law 112-141), expired on
5 September 30, 2012, and creates a lapse in funding to critical
6 programs in schools and counties across the United States,
7 including California, in the coming years; and

8 WHEREAS, Rural schools are dependent on federal
9 revenue-sharing programs, including federal forest payments, for
10 maintaining vital educational services and programs, and to ensure
11 a quality education for all students; and

12 WHEREAS, Many of California's county public works programs
13 will be crippled without stable, predictable, long-term funding
14 from the act, causing the local road network to suffer long-term
15 degradation and putting communities at risk for public safety
16 emergencies due to cuts in staffing and operational activities; and

17 WHEREAS, A number of efforts have been made and are
18 continuing to be made in both the United States House of
19 Representatives and the United States Senate to reauthorize the
20 Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of
21 2000; now, therefore, be it

22 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
23 *California, jointly*, That the Legislature of the State of California
24 respectfully urges the 113th Congress to reauthorize and fully fund
25 the federal Secure Rural Schools and Community
26 Self-Determination Act of 2000 to provide a long-term, stable
27 source of funding for schools and counties to maintain vital
28 programs prior to September 30, 2013, to avoid any interruption
29 in county services and school operations; and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
31 of this resolution to the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
32 to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and
33 Representative from California in the Congress of the United
34 States.

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