

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 24, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 18, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 3, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 109

Introduced by Assembly Member Brown

February 21, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 109—Relative to Latino Education and Advocacy Days.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 109, as amended, Brown. Latino Education and Advocacy Days.

This measure would declare the last week of March every year as a statewide week of advocacy for Latino education.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The strength of the California education system
2 and its place in a competitive global economy will depend largely
3 on future educational outcomes among Latino students; and
4 WHEREAS, Latinos emerged as the largest *ethnic* minority
5 group in the United States in the new millennium; and
6 WHEREAS, Statistically, since 1998, Latino children have
7 become the largest *ethnic* minority student demographic in United
8 States public schools *and, according to the National Conference*
9 *of State Legislatures, more than 50 percent of all K-12 pupils in*
10 *California are Latino; and*

1 WHEREAS, Both Latino students and teachers have a high
2 mobility rate, are located in racially segregated communities with
3 high poverty rates, and attend schools with fewer resources,
4 staffing, and programs. *However, despite these challenges, Latino*
5 *students have shown an impressive focus on higher education; and*

6 ~~WHEREAS, Latino students have the highest dropout rate, score~~
7 ~~among the lowest on achievement tests, and have low college~~
8 ~~enrollment rates; and~~

9 ~~WHEREAS, One-half of all Latino students currently fail to~~
10 ~~graduate from high school, and have had little progress in~~
11 ~~increasing college graduation rates over the last few decades; and~~

12 *WHEREAS, Latino students' college enrollment directly after*
13 *high school has grown from fewer than one-half to more than*
14 *two-thirds over the last decade; and*

15 *WHEREAS, Among California's Latino students, only three in*
16 *10 high school graduates complete the A-G curriculum compared*
17 *to nearly one-half of white high school graduates and 65 percent*
18 *of Asian Pacific Islander high school graduates; and*

19 *WHEREAS, Latino students, who make up 47 percent of the*
20 *traditional college-going age population of 18 to 24 years,*
21 *inclusive, are underrepresented in every system of higher education*
22 *in California, representing only 39 percent of total undergraduate*
23 *enrollment at the California Community Colleges, 33 percent at*
24 *the California State University, and 20 percent at the University*
25 *of California; and*

26 *WHEREAS, Latino students also continue to have difficulty*
27 *performing on standardized testing, accessing elite colleges and*
28 *universities, and graduating with a postsecondary degree or a*
29 *graduate degree; and*

30 *WHEREAS, According to Current Population Survey data*
31 *released by the United States Census Bureau in March 2010, out*
32 *of 100 Latino males and 100 Latina females in elementary school,*
33 *61 Latino males and 64 Latina females graduate from high school,*
34 *9.2 Latino males and 11 Latina females graduate with a bachelor*
35 *of arts or a bachelor of science degree, 3.0 Latino males and 3.6*
36 *Latina females graduate with a professional or graduate degree,*
37 *and 0.7 Latino males and 0.4 Latina females graduate with a*
38 *doctorate degree; and*

39 *WHEREAS, Many other ethnic minority groups that struggle*
40 *with educational attainment could benefit from the best practices*

1 *that have resulted in the improved educational outcomes for Latino*
2 *students; and*

3 WHEREAS, Latino students represent an opportunity to increase
4 diversity, strengthen the tax, labor, consumption, and investment
5 pool, and increase ties with Mexico and Latin America; and

6 WHEREAS, On March 27, 2014, California State University,
7 San Bernardino, College of Education will host its 5th Annual
8 Latino Education and Advocacy Days summit; now, therefore, be
9 it

10 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
11 *thereof concurring,* That the last week of March every year is
12 hereby declared as a statewide week of advocacy for Latino
13 education; and be it further

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

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