

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 124

Introduced by Assembly Member Wieckowski
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Garcia, Maienschein, and
Nestande)
(Coauthors: Senators Block, Huff, and Padilla)

March 26, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 124—Relative to Mathematics Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 124, as introduced, Wieckowski. Mathematics Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim April 2014 as Mathematics Awareness Month and would, among other things, encourage colleges, universities, and other organizations to hold events to celebrate Mathematics Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Engagement with and education in mathematics
2 are key to preparing students for careers in Science, Technology,
3 Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields; and
4 WHEREAS, Mathematics Awareness Month began in 1986
5 when President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation for National
6 Mathematics Awareness Week; and
7 WHEREAS, April 2014 is recognized as Mathematics
8 Awareness Month; and
9 WHEREAS, The theme for Mathematics Awareness Month
10 2014, “Mathematics, Magic, and Mystery,” highlights how

1 brain-teasing challenges such as magic squares, Möbius bands,
2 and card tricks promote creative and rational thinking, attract a
3 wide range of people to mathematics, and often inspire serious
4 mathematical research; and

5 WHEREAS, The theme of Mathematics Awareness Month 2014
6 honors the centennial of the birth of renowned mathematics
7 popularizer Martin Gardner, whose extensive writings inspired
8 enthusiasts of all ages to engage deeply with or even pursue a
9 career in mathematics; and

10 WHEREAS, According to a 2011 study by the United States
11 Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics
12 Administration, although women fill close to half the jobs in the
13 United States economy, they make up only 24 percent of the STEM
14 workforce; and

15 WHEREAS, Encouraging women and members of other
16 underrepresented groups to join the STEM workforce in proportion
17 to their representation in the overall labor force will help ease the
18 STEM worker shortage;

19 WHEREAS, Mathematics Awareness Month encourages
20 colleges, universities, and other organizations to hold events that
21 pique and engage students' interest in mathematics; now, therefore,
22 be it

23 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
24 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims April 2014 to
25 be Mathematics Awareness Month, and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That the Legislature does all of the following:

27 (a) Supports the goals and ideals of Mathematics Awareness
28 Month.

29 (b) Encourages colleges, universities, and other organizations
30 to hold events to celebrate Mathematics Awareness Month.

31 (c) Urges the establishment of STEM outreach programs to
32 encourage the recruitment of girls and women to study and work
33 in STEM fields.

34 (d) Supports increased public awareness and appreciation for
35 the importance of mathematics at all levels of the educational
36 system in the United States; and be it further

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

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