

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 27, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 127

Introduced by Assembly Member Bonta
(Coauthors: Senators De León, Lieu, and Liu)

April 1, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 127—Relative to Bataan Death March Veterans Commemoration Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 127, as amended, Bonta. Bataan Death March Veterans Commemoration Day.

This measure would declare April 9, 2014, and every April 9 thereafter, as Bataan Death March Veterans Commemoration Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, On April 9, 1942, during World War II, the
2 Japanese Army forced 78,000 Filipino and American soldiers to
3 march 82 miles from Bataan to Camp O'Donnell; and
4 WHEREAS, These soldiers endured brutal conditions and
5 suffered heinous war crimes along the march; and
6 WHEREAS, Approximately 10,000 soldiers, both Filipino and
7 American, lost their lives during the march; and
8 WHEREAS, The Bataan Death March was the greatest loss of
9 American and Filipino prisoners of war during World War II; and
10 *WHEREAS, Many survivors were forced to labor in prison*
11 *camps in the Philippines and Japan while prisoners of war; and*

1 WHEREAS, Californians owe a debt of gratitude to the soldiers
2 who gave up their freedom and perished in service of their countries
3 to preserve our freedoms and our lives; and

4 WHEREAS, Knowledge of this historic event is passing out of
5 living memory as survivors pass away; and

6 WHEREAS, The sacrifices made by American and Filipino
7 veterans during the Bataan Death March have received little state
8 recognition in California; and

9 WHEREAS, The United States Federal Government annually
10 recognizes April-~~9th~~ 9 as National Former Prisoner of War Day;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
13 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares that a day be set
14 aside for appreciation of the veterans of the Bataan Death March
15 and a memorial of the deceased; and be it further

16 *Resolved*, That April 9, 2014, and each ~~9th~~*ninth* day of April
17 hereafter, is hereby designated and commemorated as Bataan Death
18 March Veterans Commemoration Day; and be it further

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