
Introduced by Senator Hueso
(Principal coauthor: Senator Block)
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Stone)

May 30, 2013

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 48—Relative to Swimmable California Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 48, as introduced, Hueso. Swimmable California Day

This measure would proclaim July 25, 2013, as Swimmable California Day to recognize Californians' rights to clean and safe waters for swimming and other appropriate activities, and to encourage Californians to enjoy and use their waters.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The United States Congress passed the federal
2 Clean Water Act in 1972 with the goal of providing clean, safe
3 waters for swimming, fishing, and drinking; and
4 WHEREAS, The California State Legislature passed the
5 California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act in 1969 to
6 entrust the State Water Board and nine Regional Boards with broad
7 duties and powers to preserve and enhance all beneficial uses of
8 waters of the state, including, but not limited to, recreation; and
9 WHEREAS, Federal and state clean water laws have facilitated
10 dramatic improvements in controlling pollution from industrial
11 and municipal treatment work pipes; and
12 WHEREAS, Continued efforts are needed to address polluted
13 storm water runoff, trash, and other threats to the health of
14 California's ocean, coastline, and waters; and

1 WHEREAS, California coastal areas, beaches, estuaries, rivers,
2 streams, and lakes enhance the quality of life and well-being of
3 Californians; and

4 WHEREAS, An estimated 238 million people use and enjoy
5 California's beaches each year; and

6 WHEREAS, Urban rivers and other waters provide free exercise
7 and recreational opportunities for low-income communities that
8 might otherwise have limited access to natural environments or
9 open spaces; and

10 WHEREAS, California depends on clean water for its
11 recreational and eco-tourism, fishing industry, international ports,
12 and other coastal or ocean dependent industries; and

13 WHEREAS, California's ocean economy generates more than
14 \$40 billion annually, with the tourism and recreation sectors
15 accounting for 76 percent of all coastal employment; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
18 *thereof concurring*, That the California Legislature finds that
19 implementation, enforcement, and funding of federal and state
20 stormwater regulations and other water laws are critical to
21 California's economy and its way of life; and be it further

22 *Resolved*, That the California Legislature proclaims July 25,
23 2013, as "Swimmable California Day" to recognize Californians'
24 rights to coastal areas, beaches, estuaries, rivers, streams, and lakes
25 that are clean and safe for swimming and other appropriate
26 activities, and to encourage Californians to enjoy and use their
27 waters; and be it further

28 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
29 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.