

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 26, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 5, 2013

Senate Joint Resolution

No. 7

Introduced by Senator Lieu

(Coauthor: Senator Pavley)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Muratsuchi and Ting, Ting, Ammiano, Atkins, Bloom, Bocanegra, Bonilla, Bonta, Bradford, Brown, Ian Calderon, Campos, Chau, Chesbro, Cooley, Fong, Fox, Frazier, Garcia, Gatto, Gonzalez, Gordon, Hall, Roger Hernández, Holden, Levine, Lowenthal, Medina, Mitchell, Mullin, Nazarian, Pan, Perea, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk, Rendon, Skinner, Weber, Wieckowski, Wilk, Williams, and Yamada)

March 13, 2013

Senate Joint Resolution No. 7—Relative to the Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2013.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 7, as amended, Lieu. Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2013.

This measure would urge the Congress to enact and the President to sign the Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2013.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Residents across the County of Los Angeles suffer
- 2 intrusive and disruptive low-flying helicopter traffic above their
- 3 neighborhoods; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The County of Los Angeles is home to a unique
- 5 and very large concentration of scenic, historic, entertainment, and
- 6 transportation venues, including movie studios, movie stars' homes,

1 outdoor entertainment facilities, the coastline, Griffith Park, the
2 Hollywood sign, and many others, that generate extensive
3 helicopter tours engaged in sightseeing activity; and

4 WHEREAS, The County of Los Angeles has a high
5 concentration of media helicopters engaged in monitoring traffic
6 conditions, following car chases, and filming celebrity events,
7 which often involve hovering for extended periods of time; and

8 WHEREAS, The County of Los Angeles is home to the world's
9 leading civil helicopter manufacturer, which conducts extensive
10 helicopter flight testing in the region; and

11 WHEREAS, The unique terrain of canyons and valleys in the
12 County of Los Angeles often amplifies noise from helicopters in
13 otherwise quiet residential areas; and

14 WHEREAS, Helicopter noise in the County of Los Angeles
15 interrupts daily life for many residents by interfering with the
16 ability to hear conversations, the television, the radio, or the
17 telephone, and disrupting sleep cycles; and

18 WHEREAS, Despite multiple efforts from several community
19 and homeowner organizations in the County of Los Angeles to
20 address these disturbances, helicopter traffic in the County of Los
21 Angeles is not currently regulated by the Federal Aviation
22 Administration (FAA) or any other agency; and

23 WHEREAS, The FAA requires a specific minimum flying
24 altitude for fixed-wing aircraft, but it does not require a specific
25 minimum flying altitude for helicopters; and

26 WHEREAS, The lack of effective regulations for commercial
27 helicopter operations in the County of Los Angeles negatively
28 impacts the safety and quality of life of the county's residents; and

29 WHEREAS, The State of California is preempted by federal
30 law from adopting altitude, flight path, and other necessary
31 regulations to mitigate the impacts of commercial helicopters; and

32 WHEREAS, There is a lack of clarity as to the rulemaking
33 authority of the FAA; and

34 WHEREAS, Two companion measures in Congress, Senate Bill
35 No. 208 and House Bill No. 456, known as the Los Angeles
36 Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2013, would require
37 the Administrator of the FAA to prescribe regulations for helicopter
38 operations in the County of Los Angeles that are needed to address
39 residents' concerns over safety, noise, and other associated impacts;
40 and

1 WHEREAS, The following local government entities in the
 2 County of Los Angeles have recently voted to support the proposed
 3 federal legislation or its predecessor, the Los Angeles Residential
 4 Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2011: the County of Los Angeles,
 5 the City of Los Angeles, the City of Hermosa Beach, the City of
 6 Lomita, the City of Palos Verdes Estates, the City of Rancho Palos
 7 Verdes, the City of Redondo Beach, the City of Rolling Hills
 8 Estates, and the City of West Hollywood; now, therefore, be it

9 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*
 10 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature supports the Los Angeles
 11 Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act of 2013 (S. 208 and H.R.
 12 456) and respectfully memorializes the Congress of the United
 13 States to promptly pass and President Barack Obama to sign that
 14 legislation; and be it further

15 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
 16 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
 17 States, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to the Speaker of the
 18 House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative
 19 from California in the Congress of the United States.

20

21

22 **CORRECTIONS:**

23 **Heading—Lines 3 and 7.**

24
