

Introduced by Senators Leno, Galgiani, and Lara

June 3, 2014

Senate Resolution No. 49—Relative to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month.

1 WHEREAS, Our great state and nation consistently and
2 diligently strive to promote the egalitarian principles of equality
3 and justice where all people have inalienable rights, including life,
4 liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

5 WHEREAS, California’s and America’s diversity is one of our
6 greatest strengths; and

7 WHEREAS, To achieve a just and fair society, we must teach
8 our children to respect one another, to appreciate our differences,
9 and to recognize the common good in all of us; and

10 WHEREAS, Our great state protects its residents from
11 discrimination and harassment based on actual or perceived race,
12 ethnicity, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, physical or
13 mental ability, medical condition, sex, including gender identity
14 or expression, or sexual orientation; and

15 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
16 have made important and lasting contributions to our great state
17 and nation in every field of endeavor, including, but not limited
18 to, business, medicine, law, humanities, science, literature, politics,
19 education, music, philanthropy, sports and athletics, arts, and
20 culture, that enrich our national life; and

21 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
22 come from all walks of life, regardless of race, ethnicity, color,
23 religion, ancestry, national origin, economic status, physical or
24 mental ability, medical condition, sex, or gender identity or
25 expression; and

1 WHEREAS, For the first time in the history of the United States,
2 a sitting President and Vice President, President Barack Obama
3 and Vice President Joe Biden, affirmed their support for the
4 fundamental right to marry, regardless of sexual orientation or
5 gender. Former Vice President Dick Cheney and former First Lady
6 Laura Bush have also affirmed their support for marriage equality;
7 and
8 WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States struck
9 down the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8, which barred
10 the federal government from recognizing same-sex marriages and
11 restored marriage equality to California, respectively; and
12 WHEREAS, Married same-sex couples now enjoy the same
13 rights and privileges granted to other married couples, including
14 joint tax filings, military benefits, family and medical leave, and
15 the ability to sponsor their foreign spouse; and
16 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense repealed “Don’t Ask,
17 Don’t Tell,” allowing servicemen and women to serve their country
18 openly and proudly; and
19 WHEREAS, More lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
20 are being elected to public offices across the country, playing in
21 professional sports leagues, occupying the highest positions in
22 business, and serving as role models for all; and
23 WHEREAS, While our great state and nation have progressed
24 in our journey toward dignity, understanding, and mutual respect
25 for all, we still have a long way to go in eradicating the prejudice
26 and discrimination that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender
27 people and their families encounter, and to this end, we continue
28 working for the passage of the inclusive federal Employment
29 Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), comprehensive immigration
30 reform, and increased awareness of the difficulties facing the
31 transgender community; and
32 WHEREAS, To build a stronger and better state and nation, we
33 must continue to help advance the cause of equality for all people;
34 and
35 WHEREAS, Friends and allies of the LGBT community have
36 shown considerable support and commitment to the struggles of
37 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people at home and abroad;
38 and

1 WHEREAS, Each year, June marks the anniversary of the
2 Stonewall Rebellion that gave birth to the modern lesbian, gay,
3 bisexual, and transgender civil rights movement; and

4 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has proclaimed June as
5 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month and
6 reaffirmed his administration's goal of eliminating prejudice
7 everywhere it exists and celebrating the great diversity of the
8 American people; and

9 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans,
10 their families and friends, and all those committed to justice and
11 equality celebrate, during the month of June, the rich culture, the
12 notable achievements, and the outstanding services that lesbian,
13 gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans make to our great state
14 and nation; now, therefore, be it

15 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the Senate
16 proclaims June 2014 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender
17 (LGBT) Pride Month, urges all residents to join in celebrating the
18 culture, accomplishments, and contributions of lesbian, gay,
19 bisexual, and transgender people, and encourages the people of
20 California to work to help advance the cause of equality for lesbian,
21 gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their families; and be it
22 further

23 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
24 this resolution to the Members of the Legislature and to the author
25 for appropriate distribution.