

**Introduced by Senator Huff**

August 11, 2014

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Senate Resolution No. 57—Relative to Education Equality Month.

1 WHEREAS, Sixty years ago in *Brown v. Board of Education*  
2 ((1954) 347 U.S. 483) the United States Supreme Court noted that  
3 “education is perhaps the most important function of state and  
4 local governments”; and

5 WHEREAS, A Los Angeles County Superior Court issued a  
6 tentative ruling in *Vergara, et al. v. State of California, et al.* (Case  
7 Number BC484642) (*Vergara*) that found California’s public  
8 education system to be unfair to low-income and minority students,  
9 who “bear the brunt of staffing inequalities”; and

10 WHEREAS, The Los Angeles County Superior Court also found  
11 that the teacher dismissal statutes “impose a real and appreciable  
12 impact on students’ fundamental right to equality of education”;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Teachers and students deserve motivating and  
15 challenging schools that set high standards and support teachers  
16 and students in reaching their goals; and

17 WHEREAS, Teachers are an important component of a student’s  
18 success; and

19 WHEREAS, The Los Angeles County Superior Court in *Vergara*  
20 noted that students faced with ineffective teachers become  
21 economically disadvantaged in comparison to their peers; and

22 WHEREAS, Current research shows that replacing 5 to 8 percent  
23 of the least effective teachers with an average teacher would  
24 provide long-term benefits to the economy through enhanced  
25 productivity; and

1 WHEREAS, The gains from increased student achievement  
2 according to historical economic patterns, would be measured in  
3 trillions of dollars; and

4 WHEREAS, The State of California bears the ultimate authority  
5 and responsibility to ensure that its district-based system of  
6 common schools provides basic equality of educational  
7 opportunity; and

8 WHEREAS, It is the duty of the Legislature to enact laws that  
9 appropriately recognize and respond to the ruling in Vergara; now,  
10 therefore, be it

11 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California,* That the Senate  
12 proclaims June 2014 as Education Equality Month; and be it further

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