

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 19, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 20

Introduced by Assembly Member Mark Stone

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Travis Allen, Atkins, Baker, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonilla, Bonta, Burke, Calderon, Campos, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chiu, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dahle, Daly, Dodd, Eggman, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gray, Grove, Harper, Roger Hernández, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Kim, Lackey, Levine, Linder, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Patterson, Perea, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Santiago, Steinorth, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wilk, and Wood)

February 9, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 20—Relative to California Court Reporting and Captioning Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 20, as amended, Mark Stone. California Court Reporting and Captioning Week.

This measure would proclaim the week of February 15, 2015, through February 21, 2015, as California Court Reporting and Captioning Week and request the governor to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the great State of California to observe the day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and educational activities.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, For millennia, individuals have wanted the spoken
2 word translated into text to record history and to accomplish this
3 task have relied on scribes; and

4 WHEREAS, The profession of scribe was born with the rise of
5 civilization; and

6 WHEREAS, In ancient Egypt, scribes were considered to be
7 the literate elite, recording laws and other important documents
8 and, since that time, have served as impartial witnesses to history;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Scribes were present with our nation's founding
11 fathers as the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights
12 were drafted; and

13 WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln entrusted scribes to
14 record the Emancipation Proclamation; and

15 WHEREAS, Since the advent of shorthand machines, these
16 scribes have been known as court reporters and have played a
17 permanent and invaluable role across our country; and

18 WHEREAS, Court reporters are present in the California State
19 Legislature, preserving legislators' words and actions; and

20 WHEREAS, Court reporters and captioners are responsible for
21 keeping a complete, accurate, secure, and unbiased record of
22 courtroom proceedings and other legal matters, including civil
23 depositions; and

24 WHEREAS, Through the Transcript Reimbursement Fund,
25 court reporters fund and are responsible for providing courtroom
26 transcripts to indigent litigants; and

27 WHEREAS, Court reporters and captioners are responsible for
28 the closed captioning seen scrolling across television screens, at
29 sporting stadiums, and in other community and educational settings,
30 bringing information to millions of deaf and hard-of-hearing
31 Americans every day; and

32 WHEREAS, Court reporters regularly volunteer to document
33 educational events and to capture veterans' oral histories at
34 community events; and

35 WHEREAS, There are an estimated 8,500 Californians working
36 as court reporters and captioners; and

37 WHEREAS, Court reporters and captioners translate the spoken
38 word into text and preserve our history; and

39 WHEREAS, Whether called the scribes of yesterday or the court
40 reporters and captioners of today, the individuals who preserve

1 our nation's history are truly the guardians of the record; now,
2 therefore, be it

3 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
4 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims February 15,
5 2015, through February 21, 2015, as California Court Reporting
6 and Captioning Week, and requests that the Governor issue a
7 proclamation calling on the people of the great State of California
8 to observe the day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and
9 educational activities; and be it further

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

O