

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 4, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 25

Introduced by Assembly Member Obernolte

February 17, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 25—Relative to Pi Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 25, as amended, Obernolte. Pi Day.

This measure would proclaim March 14, 2015, as Pi Day. The measure would also encourage the organization of appropriate activities that celebrate the significance of Pi, urge the formation of partnerships that provide extended exposure to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning opportunities, and support the creation of cross-sector STEM networks linking partners from various specified entities to address regional needs in STEM education through information and resource sharing.

Fiscal committee: ~~yes~~-no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Greek letter Pi is the symbol for the ratio of
2 a circle’s circumference to its diameter, which is a universal
3 constant with applications throughout all science, technology,
4 engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines; and
5 WHEREAS, The value of Pi was approximated by the Greek
6 mathematician Archimedes around 250 BC as 22/7, but the actual
7 number is “irrational,” and continues infinitely without pattern or
8 repetition; and

1 WHEREAS, The value of Pi has been calculated to over one
2 trillion digits, but only 39 digits are sufficient to calculate the
3 circumference of the known universe; and

4 WHEREAS, Pi Day was founded at the Exploratorium in San
5 Francisco 27 years ago, and is celebrated annually on March 14th
6 to correspond with the first three digits of Pi (i.e. 3.14); and

7 WHEREAS, Pi Day will hold special significance in 2015 when,
8 at 9:26:53 a.m. and p.m., the date and time align with the first 10
9 digits of Pi (i.e. 3.141592653) for the only time this century; and

10 WHEREAS, According to a 2013 Brookings Institution study,
11 20 percent of all jobs in the United States require specialized
12 knowledge in a STEM field; and

13 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Commerce reports
14 that growth in STEM jobs over the past 10 years was three times
15 greater than that of non-STEM jobs; and

16 WHEREAS, According to the Organization for Economic
17 Cooperation and Development (OECD), American ~~students~~ *pupils*
18 at age 15 are ranked 26th out of the 34 OECD countries in math,
19 and 21st in science; and

20 WHEREAS, Women, African Americans, and Latinos are
21 underrepresented in STEM occupations relative to their share of
22 the workforce; and

23 WHEREAS, Research demonstrates that participation in STEM
24 fields increases when ~~students~~ *pupils* are engaged through the
25 hands-on application of science and mathematics to solve
26 real-world problems; and

27 WHEREAS, A May 2014 report issued by the Superintendent
28 of Public Instruction's STEM task force concluded that informal
29 learning opportunities coupled with a broad array of business,
30 philanthropic, and community STEM partnerships can play a
31 critical role in expanding interest, opportunities, and participation
32 in STEM fields; now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
34 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims March 14,
35 2015, as Pi Day; and be it further

36 *Resolved*, That the Legislature does all of the following:

37 (a) Encourages ~~educational institutions~~, *educators*, museums,
38 libraries, parks, businesses, and community-based groups to
39 organize appropriate activities that celebrate the significance of

1 Pi, and engage students of all ages in the study of science and
2 mathematics.

3 (b) Urges the formation of business, philanthropic, and
4 community partnerships that provide extended exposure to STEM
5 learning opportunities.

6 (c) Supports the creation of cross-sector STEM networks linking
7 partners from government, business, community organizations,
8 and nonprofits to address regional needs in STEM education
9 through information and resource sharing; 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.

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