

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 16, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 3, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 31**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Perea and Gallagher**

(Principal coauthors: Senators Cannella and Galgiani)

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

(Coauthors: Senators Allen, Anderson, Bates, Berryhill, Block, Fuller, Gainle, Hall, Hernandez, Hertzberg, Hill, Hueso, Huff, Jackson, Lara, Leno, Leyva, Liu, McGuire, Mendoza, Mitchell, Monning, Morrell, Nguyen, Nielsen, Pan, Roth, Stone, Vidak, Wieckowski, and Wolk)

February 24, 2015

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 31—Relative to California Agriculture Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 31, as amended, Perea. California Agriculture Day.

This measure would recognize and honor the men and women of California agriculture for their dedication and productivity by observing March 18, 2015, as National Agriculture Day, and designating March 18, 2015, as California Agriculture Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, March 18, 2015, is designated as California
- 2 Agriculture Day, a day of celebration to commemorate agriculture’s
- 3 importance in our daily lives, its vital role in keeping Californians
- 4 nourished, and its role in keeping the state’s economy ranked as
- 5 the eighth largest in the world; and
- 6 WHEREAS, The 2015 theme of California Agriculture Day is
- 7 “California Breaking New Ground” in recognition of the diversity
- 8 and significance of California agriculture, which is constantly
- 9 developing new and innovative technologies; and
- 10 WHEREAS, For more than 60 consecutive years, California
- 11 has been the number one agricultural state in the nation, producing
- 12 more than 400 crop and livestock products and accounting for
- 13 approximately 50 percent of the nation’s supply of fruits,
- 14 vegetables, and nuts; and
- 15 WHEREAS, The inexhaustible efforts of California’s
- 16 farmworkers have contributed greatly to the success of the
- 17 agricultural industry; and
- 18 WHEREAS, California’s agricultural community relies on a
- 19 vital infrastructure that aids in the exclusion and early detection
- 20 of plant and animal pests and diseases that impact public health,
- 21 the environment, and commerce; and
- 22 WHEREAS, With less than 1 percent of California’s population
- 23 engaged in farming and agriculture, each agricultural worker today
- 24 provides for more than 100 other people, compared to just 13 in
- 25 1947; and
- 26 WHEREAS, Today’s agricultural industry offers a diverse range
- 27 of challenging and rewarding career opportunities, from on-farm
- 28 cultivation to food science and engineering; and
- 29 WHEREAS, Over the past seven decades, advances in
- 30 agricultural production have resulted in a drop in consumer

1 spending on food products from 23 percent of disposable income  
2 in 1947 to approximately 10 percent today; and

3 WHEREAS, California is the nation’s leader in agricultural  
4 exports, shipping more than 18.8 billion dollars worth of food and  
5 agricultural commodities around the world in 2012; and

6 WHEREAS, California’s agricultural industry constantly seeks  
7 to incorporate the latest scientific and technological production  
8 and marketing techniques to meet the demands of changing  
9 consumer needs and complex world markets; and

10 WHEREAS, Public-private partnerships are continually being  
11 developed to improve quality and ensure safe handling practices  
12 on the farm, in transit, and during processing; and

13 WHEREAS, California consumers are increasingly  
14 demonstrating their preference for “California grown” products,  
15 and over the last decade, Californians have greatly increased their  
16 support of farmers’ markets, community-supported agricultural  
17 programs, and farm-to-school programs; and

18 WHEREAS, A broad approach to agricultural education is vital  
19 to ensure that agriculture in California continues to flourish; and

20 WHEREAS, California is estimated to lose 500,000 acres of  
21 agricultural land by 2050 and more than 300,000 acres of it will  
22 have been highly productive irrigated cropland, and thus California  
23 should continue to work for conservation to preserve California’s  
24 agricultural heritage; and

25 WHEREAS, It is appropriate for all Californians to recognize  
26 our farmers, ranchers, farmworkers, and others involved in  
27 providing such a bounty to our nation and the entire world; now,  
28 therefore, be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
30 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes and honors  
31 the men and women of California agriculture for their dedication  
32 and productivity by observing March 18, 2015, as National  
33 Agriculture Day, and designating Wednesday, March 18, 2015,  
34 as California Agriculture Day; and be it further

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

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