

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 34

Introduced by Assembly Members Cooper and Cooley

February 25, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 34—Relative to the November 1984 anti-Sikh pogroms.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 34, as introduced, Cooper. November 1984 anti-Sikh pogroms: remembrance.

This measure would remember those who lost their lives during the November 1984 anti-Sikh pogroms and massacre.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, November 2014 marked the 30th anniversary of
2 the horrific anti-Sikh pogroms, which claimed the lives of
3 thousands of Sikhs throughout India in the first week of November
4 1984; and

5 WHEREAS, Many Sikh lives were saved from the massacre by
6 compassionate Indians of all religious backgrounds, who put their
7 own lives at risk by providing shelter to their Sikh friends and
8 neighbors; and

9 WHEREAS, Sikhs were beaten with iron rods; forcibly shorn
10 of their hair, which Sikhs are religiously required to maintain uncut;
11 doused with kerosene; and set on fire; and

12 WHEREAS, Sikh women, many of whom lost their husbands,
13 sons, and fathers during the pogroms, were gang raped and sexually
14 assaulted by the attackers; and

1 WHEREAS, Sikh homes, businesses, and houses of worship
2 (gurdwaras) were looted, damaged, and destroyed during the
3 pogroms; and

4 WHEREAS, The pogroms resulted in the intentional destruction
5 of many Sikh families, communities, homes, and businesses; and

6 WHEREAS, Eyewitnesses, journalists, and human rights
7 activists have compiled evidence showing that government and
8 law enforcement officials organized, participated in, and failed to
9 intervene to prevent the killings through direct and indirect means;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Individuals and organizations throughout the world,
12 recognizing the need for justice, continue to demand prosecution
13 of those responsible for the November 1984 anti-Sikh pogroms;
14 now, therefore, be it

15 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
16 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature remember those who lost
17 their lives during the November 1984 anti-Sikh pogroms and
18 massacre; and be it further

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