

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 8, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 34

Introduced by Assembly Members Cooper and Cooley
(Coauthor: Assembly Member McCarty)

February 25, 2015

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

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 34, as amended, 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~~ 30 year
2 anniversary of the horrific anti-Sikh pogroms, which claimed the
3 lives of thousands of Sikhs throughout India in the first week of
4 November 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

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

4 WHEREAS, Sikh homes, businesses, and houses of worship
5 (gurdwaras) were looted, damaged, and destroyed during the
6 pogroms; and

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

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

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

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

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