

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 11, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 45

Introduced by Assembly Member Grove

March 11, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 45—~~Relative to state government.~~ *Relative to the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 45, as amended, Grove. ~~State agency budgets: legislative review: zero-based budgeting.~~ *Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933.*

This measure would remember and honor the millions of victims of the man-made Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as “Holodomor,” and their descendants who are living throughout California. The measure would also designate November 26, 2016, as Holodomor Remembrance Day.

~~This measure would state the intent of the Legislature to conduct an in-depth review of the budgets of the 40 largest budgets of state agencies and departments over a period 5 years using a zero-based budgeting approach, as specified. The measure would also request that the the first 8 state agencies and departments selected for review provide specified information to the Assembly Committee on Budget and the Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review before June 30, 2016.~~

Fiscal committee: *yes-no.*

- 1 *WHEREAS, The Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as*
- 2 *“Holodomor,” was a man-made famine that caused the deaths of*
- 3 *at least five million innocent men, women, and children in Ukraine,*
- 4 *resulting in an annihilation of an estimated 25 percent of the rural*

1 *population of that country, one of the most productive agricultural*
2 *areas of the Soviet Union; and*

3 *WHEREAS, This man-made famine also resulted in the deaths*
4 *of an estimated one to two million people in regions outside*
5 *Ukraine, mostly in the largely ethnic Ukrainian North Caucasus*
6 *territory; and*

7 *WHEREAS, These millions of people were starved to death by*
8 *forced agricultural collectivization and grain seizures by the Soviet*
9 *Union; and*

10 *WHEREAS, Western observers and scholars who accurately*
11 *reported on the existence of the famine as it was occurring were*
12 *subjected to disparagement and criticism for their reporting; and*

13 *WHEREAS, The Soviet Union and many scholars in the West*
14 *denied the existence of the famine until the collapse of the Soviet*
15 *Union in 1991 when Soviet Union archives became accessible,*
16 *thereby making the documentation of the premeditated nature of*
17 *the famine and its harsh enforcement possible; and*

18 *WHEREAS, The final report of the U.S. Commission on the*
19 *Ukraine Famine, established on December 13, 1985, concluded*
20 *that the victims were “starved to death in a man-made famine;”*
21 *and*

22 *WHEREAS, Although the famine was one of the greatest losses*
23 *of human life in the 20th century, its occurrence remains*
24 *insufficiently known in the United States and throughout the world;*
25 *and*

26 *WHEREAS, The official recognition of the famine by the*
27 *government of Ukraine and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine*
28 *represents a significant step in the reestablishment of Ukraine’s*
29 *national identity and the advancement of efforts to establish a*
30 *democratic and free Ukraine that is fully integrated into the*
31 *Western community of nations; and*

32 *WHEREAS, Whether Ukrainian immigrants were fleeing*
33 *political oppression or religious persecution to pursue better lives*
34 *for themselves and their families, the desire to live in peace and*
35 *enjoy liberty was so valued that it drew generations of Ukrainian*
36 *immigrants to the United States and California in an effort to*
37 *rebuild their lives; and*

38 *WHEREAS, California is now home to the third largest*
39 *Ukrainian-American population in the United States, and*
40 *Ukrainians living in California have enriched our state through*

1 *their leadership and contributions in business, agriculture,*
2 *academia, government, and the arts; and*

3 *WHEREAS, In August 2015, a memorial to the millions who*
4 *perished in the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as*
5 *“Holodomor,” was erected in the United States capital, and the*
6 *dedication ceremony took place on November 7, 2015; now,*
7 *therefore, be it*

8 **RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF**
9 **CALIFORNIA, THE SENATE THEREOF CONCURRING, That**
10 *the millions of victims of the man-made Ukrainian Famine of*
11 *1932–1933, known as “Holodomor,” and their descendants living*
12 *throughout California should be solemnly remembered and*
13 *honored; and be it further*

14 **RESOLVED, That the Legislature designates November 26,**
15 **2016, as Holodomor Remembrance Day in California and**
16 **encourages individual citizens, educators, businesses, groups,**
17 **organizations, and public institutions to observe Holodomor**
18 **Remembrance Day with appropriate activities designed to honor**
19 **the victims and educate Californians about this tragedy; and be**
20 **it further**

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

23 ~~WHEREAS, Article IV of the California Constitution provides~~
24 ~~that it is the responsibility of the Legislature to oversee the~~
25 ~~operations of the executive branch and its various agencies and~~
26 ~~departments; and~~

27 ~~WHEREAS, Article IV further provides that it is the~~
28 ~~responsibility of the Legislature to develop a budget for the State~~
29 ~~of California; and~~

30 ~~WHEREAS, A zero-based budgeting approach is one in which~~
31 ~~agency and department budgets are evaluated on program-level~~
32 ~~efficiencies, instead of only marginal changes; and~~

33 ~~WHEREAS, In recent years, the National Conference of State~~
34 ~~Legislatures has reported that 17 states have used zero-based~~
35 ~~budgeting in some form and several more have made serious efforts~~
36 ~~to do so; and~~

37 ~~WHEREAS, The National Conference of State Legislatures~~
38 ~~indicates that states such as Idaho have successfully used~~
39 ~~zero-based budgeting as a management tool as well as a budgetary~~
40 ~~tool; and~~

1 ~~WHEREAS, The State of Washington, among others,~~
2 ~~successfully used a variant of zero-based budgeting starting in~~
3 ~~2002 to align expenditures with desired outcomes and balanced~~
4 ~~the budget of the State of Washington without tax increases; and~~

5 ~~WHEREAS, The elected representatives of the Legislature have~~
6 ~~a duty to guard taxpayer dollars against waste, fraud, and abuse;~~
7 ~~and~~

8 ~~WHEREAS, The largest 40 state agency and department budgets~~
9 ~~account for more than one-half of the total budget for the State of~~
10 ~~California; and~~

11 ~~WHEREAS, The largest 40 state agency and department budgets~~
12 ~~include all entities expending more than \$100 million in state~~
13 ~~funds; now, therefore, be it~~

14 ~~*Resolved by The Assembly of The State of California, The Senate*~~
15 ~~*thereof concurring, That the Legislature intends to conduct an*~~
16 ~~*in-depth review, over a period of 5 years, of the 40 largest budgets*~~
17 ~~*of state agencies and departments with state positions; and be it*~~
18 ~~*further*~~

19 ~~*Resolved, That the Legislature intends to use a zero-based*~~
20 ~~*budgeting approach during this review; and be it further*~~

21 ~~*Resolved, That the 40 largest budgets of state agencies and*~~
22 ~~*departments with state positions will be identified by the*~~
23 ~~*Legislature on or before June 30, 2015, based on amounts allocated*~~
24 ~~*to these agencies in the 2014-15 budget; and be it further*~~

25 ~~*Resolved, That the Legislature will choose the first eight*~~
26 ~~*agencies and departments for review before the 2015 Interim Study*~~
27 ~~*Recess; and be it further*~~

28 ~~*Resolved, That those eight agencies and departments are*~~
29 ~~*requested, before June 30, 2016, to provide to the Assembly*~~
30 ~~*Committee on Budget and the Senate Committee on Budget and*~~
31 ~~*Fiscal Review a complete list of logical “decision units” within*~~
32 ~~*an agency’s budget, which are programs, activities, or*~~
33 ~~*organizational entities. For each of these units, the agencies and*~~
34 ~~*departments are requested to provide all of the following:*~~

35 ~~(a) A proposed minimum level of funding for viability for the~~
36 ~~2017-18 fiscal year.~~

37 ~~(b) Current expenditures.~~

38 ~~(c) Program goals that can be quantified, including any goals~~
39 ~~that are required by citations of existing law.~~

40 ~~(d) Progress toward those goals; and be it further~~

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 2 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

O