

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 11**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Burke and Atkins**  
**(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Irwin)**  
(Coauthor: Senator Allen)

March 4, 2015

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Assembly Joint Resolution No. 11—Relative to military bases.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 11, as introduced, Burke. Military bases: closures.

This measure would memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to recognize the unique military value of California's defense installations and the disproportionate sacrifices California has endured in previous base realignment and closure (BRAC) rounds.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The federal Department of Defense conducted base  
2 realignment and closure (BRAC) rounds in 1988, 1991, 1993,  
3 1995, and 2005. The previous BRAC rounds resulted in the closure  
4 of 25 major bases in California, and the realignment of eight other  
5 facilities; and  
6 WHEREAS, A sixth BRAC round for 2017 has been proposed  
7 in the fiscal year 2016 federal budget; and  
8 WHEREAS, California has been the state hardest hit by the  
9 Department of Defense's previous BRAC rounds. In the first four  
10 BRAC rounds, for example, the state absorbed 25 percent of the  
11 total base closures nationally and 11 percent of the base  
12 realignments; and

1 WHEREAS, California absorbed 54 percent of personnel cuts  
2 in the first four BRAC rounds, losing more federal military jobs  
3 from the closure of its military bases than the combined losses in  
4 all other states. Additionally, 300,000 private sector defense  
5 industry jobs in California were eliminated as a result of those  
6 base closures; and

7 WHEREAS, These base closures had a severe impact on local  
8 governments and communities, some of which continue to struggle  
9 with the transition and reuse of these closed bases; and

10 WHEREAS, There are currently more than 30 major federal  
11 military installations and commands remaining in California that  
12 could be closed or realigned as a result of another BRAC process;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense and the defense  
15 industry represent a major industry in California today, totaling  
16 more than \$71 billion in direct spending and employing more than  
17 350,000 Californians. Total effects on the economy far exceed  
18 these numbers; and

19 WHEREAS, For over half of a century, California's workers,  
20 businesses, industries, and universities have contributed to our  
21 national security, utilizing their talents, capital, and skills to  
22 develop and manufacture new technologies, aircraft, satellites,  
23 missiles, and advanced weapons systems; and

24 WHEREAS, Military installations provide the foundation for  
25 United States defense efforts. Maintaining these installations is,  
26 therefore, critical to supporting America's national security.  
27 California is vital to the mission and might of our United States  
28 military. Our seaports and airports, bases and equipment, research  
29 labs and testing grounds support the finest fighting force in the  
30 world; and

31 WHEREAS, As our nation faces new security threats in the 21st  
32 century, California remains ready to confront these dangers. In  
33 space, cyberspace, over land, at sea, and in the air, California is  
34 helping the military meet the challenges of today and tomorrow.  
35 From troop deployment to systems development and cybersecurity,  
36 training to logistics, the future of our military is here in California;  
37 and

38 WHEREAS, Having been the leader in the nation's defense  
39 effort, California state government must lead by articulating the

1 national security imperative of maintaining military installations  
2 within its borders; and

3 WHEREAS, In an effort to be proactive in retaining military  
4 facilities within California that are essential to national security,  
5 and to provide for a single, focused strategy to defend these  
6 installations, in March 2013 Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.  
7 established the Governor's Military Council, in an effort to protect  
8 and expand the military's vital role in national security and  
9 California's economy. The council has met regularly throughout  
10 the state since its creation, and is continuing to work to protect  
11 California's military installations and operations and to assist in  
12 recruiting new defense missions and operations to the state; now,  
13 therefore, be it

14 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*  
15 *California, jointly,* That California's military installations possess  
16 critical military value and that California is ready to help the  
17 Department of Defense meet its goals now and in the future; and  
18 be it further

19 *Resolved,* That the Legislature of the State of California  
20 respectfully memorializes the President and the Congress of the  
21 United States, to not only recognize the unique military value of  
22 California's defense installations, but also continue to take into  
23 consideration all of the following:

24 (a) California's unparalleled land, air, and sea ranges that  
25 provide the ability to train all types of forces, year round, in every  
26 type of warfare effectively, efficiently, and economically.

27 (b) California's strategic location in the Pacific Theater is a  
28 critical factor in executing the National Defense Strategy strategic  
29 shift to the Pacific region by allowing for rapid deployment to  
30 trouble spots in Asia.

31 (c) California's ability to recruit and train highly skilled and  
32 educated personnel.

33 (d) The existing synergies between military installations and  
34 the private sector.

35 (e) The economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity  
36 of military installations.

37 (f) Our incomparable quality of life, which enhances personnel  
38 retention.

39 (g) The vast intellectual capital that has been developed in  
40 California since World War II.

1 (h) The disproportionate sacrifices California has endured in  
2 previous BRAC rounds; and be it further  
3 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
4 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
5 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the  
6 Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative  
7 from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the  
8 author for appropriate distribution.

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