

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 11**

**Introduced by Assembly Members Burke and Atkins**

**(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Irwin)**

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

(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 amended, 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

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

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

22 WHEREAS, There are currently more than 30 major federal  
23 military installations and commands remaining in California that  
24 could be closed or realigned as a result of another BRAC process;  
25 and

26 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense and the defense  
27 industry represent a major industry in California today, totaling  
28 more than \$71 billion in direct spending and employing more than  
29 350,000 Californians. Total effects on the economy far exceed  
30 these numbers; and

31 WHEREAS, For over half of a century, California's workers,  
32 businesses, industries, and universities have contributed to our  
33 national security, utilizing their talents, capital, and skills to  
34 develop and manufacture new technologies, aircraft, satellites,  
35 missiles, and advanced weapons systems; and

36 WHEREAS, Military installations provide the foundation for  
37 United States defense efforts. Maintaining these installations is,  
38 therefore, critical to supporting America's national security.  
39 California is vital to the mission and might of our United States  
40 military. Our seaports and airports, bases and equipment, research

1 labs and testing grounds support the finest fighting force in the  
2 world; and

3 WHEREAS, As our nation faces new security threats in the 21st  
4 century, California remains ready to confront these dangers. In  
5 space, cyberspace, over land, at sea, and in the air, California is  
6 helping the military meet the challenges of today and tomorrow.  
7 From troop deployment to systems development and cybersecurity,  
8 training to logistics, the future of our military is here in California;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Having been the leader in the nation's defense  
11 effort, California state government must lead by articulating the  
12 national security imperative of maintaining military installations  
13 within its borders; and

14 WHEREAS, In an effort to be proactive in retaining military  
15 facilities within California that are essential to national security,  
16 and to provide for a single, focused strategy to defend these  
17 installations, in March 2013 Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.  
18 established the Governor's Military Council, in an effort to protect  
19 and expand the military's vital role in national security and  
20 California's economy. The council has met regularly throughout  
21 the state since its creation, and is continuing to work to protect  
22 California's military installations and operations and to assist in  
23 recruiting new defense missions and operations to the state; now,  
24 therefore, be it

25 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*  
26 *California, jointly,* That California's military installations possess  
27 critical military value and that California is ready to help the  
28 Department of Defense meet its goals now and in the future; and  
29 be it further

30 *Resolved,* That the Legislature of the State of California  
31 respectfully memorializes the President and the Congress of the  
32 United States, to not only recognize the unique military value of  
33 California's defense installations, but also continue to take into  
34 consideration all of the following:

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

38 (b) California's strategic location in the Pacific Theater is a  
39 critical factor in executing the National Defense Strategy strategic

1 shift to the Pacific region by allowing for rapid deployment to  
2 trouble spots in Asia.

3 (c) California’s ability to recruit and train highly skilled and  
4 educated personnel.

5 (d) The existing synergies between military installations and  
6 the private sector.

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

9 (f) Our incomparable quality of life, which enhances personnel  
10 retention.

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

13 (h) The disproportionate sacrifices California has endured in  
14 previous BRAC rounds; and be it further

15 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
16 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
17 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the  
18 Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative  
19 from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the  
20 author for appropriate distribution.