

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 50**

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**Introduced by Senator Nielsen**

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

April 29, 2015

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 50—Relative to World War II Remembrance Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 50, as amended, Nielsen. World War II Remembrance Month.

This measure would urge the Governor to proclaim the month of June 2015 as World War II Remembrance Month, and call upon all Californians to observe the 70th anniversary of the end of the war.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Second World War, which lasted from 1939
- 2 to 1945, was the most widespread war in human history, directly
- 3 involving more than 100 million people from more than 30

1 different countries, which were split between two opposing military  
2 alliances—the Allies, led by the United States of America and the  
3 United Kingdom, and the Axis, led by Nazi Germany and the  
4 Empire of Japan; and

5 WHEREAS, The Axis powers initiated military aggression and  
6 maintained the strategic momentum until gradually slowed by  
7 Allied resistance in late 1942 and 1943, after which the Allies  
8 reversed the momentum and commenced operations to liberate  
9 Axis-conquered lands; and

10 WHEREAS, On December 11, 1941, four days after the  
11 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Germany and Italy declared war  
12 on the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, On June 4, 1942, the United States won a decisive  
14 naval victory over Japan in the Battle of Midway, generally  
15 recognized as the event that began shifting the momentum of the  
16 Pacific Campaign in favor of the Allies; and

17 WHEREAS, On November 8, 1942, United States and Allied  
18 forces commenced Operation Torch, the campaign to expel the  
19 German forces from Axis-occupied North Africa; and

20 WHEREAS, Between August 1942 and February 1943, Allied  
21 forces invaded the Japanese-held island of Guadalcanal, beginning  
22 the celebrated Allied island-hopping campaign that forced the  
23 Japanese from various other Pacific island chains that the Japanese  
24 had earlier seized; and

25 WHEREAS, German and other Axis forces in North Africa  
26 surrendered on May 13, 1943, leading to the successful landing in  
27 Sicily by United States and Allied forces in July 1943; and

28 WHEREAS, On September 8, 1943, Axis member Italy  
29 surrendered to United States and Allied forces; and

30 WHEREAS, More than 150,000 Allied soldiers landed in France  
31 on June 6, 1944, known thereafter as “D-Day”; and

32 WHEREAS, On August 25, 1944, Allied forces liberated Paris;  
33 and

34 WHEREAS, From mid to late December 1944, during the Battle  
35 of the Bulge, United States troops heroically resisted a massive  
36 German counteroffensive in Belgium and France; and

37 WHEREAS, Fighting continued throughout the Pacific in 1944  
38 and early 1945, including major but costly American victories at  
39 Leyte, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa; and

1 WHEREAS, Germany surrendered unconditionally to the  
2 Western Allies at Reims on May 7, 1945, and to the Soviet Union  
3 on May 9, 1945, in Berlin; and

4 WHEREAS, President of the United States Harry S. Truman  
5 declared May 8, 1945, “V-E Day,” marking the end of World War  
6 II in Europe, although the war with Japan continued until August  
7 14, 1945; and

8 WHEREAS, During World War II, an estimated 292,000  
9 members of the United States Armed Forces were killed in action  
10 and more than 400,000 members of the United States Armed Forces  
11 died; now, therefore, be it

12 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
13 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature calls upon all Californians  
14 to observe the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World  
15 War, and urges them to observe the anniversary with appropriate  
16 ceremonies and activities that honor and give thanks to the  
17 Californians and other Americans who fought in the war, both  
18 those who survived its horrific rigors and those who fell in the  
19 service of freedom; and be it further

20 *Resolved,* That the Legislature urges the Governor to proclaim  
21 the month of June 2015 as World War II Remembrance Month;  
22 and be it further

23 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
24 this resolution to the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Military  
25 Department, the California State Military Museum, and to the  
26 author for appropriate distribution.