

Introduced by Senators Lara, Galgiani, and Leno

June 3, 2015

Senate Resolution No. 33—Relative to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month.

1 WHEREAS, Our great state and nation strives to promote the
2 principles of equality and justice, and the inalienable rights of all
3 people to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and
4 WHEREAS, California’s and America’s diversity is one of our
5 greatest strengths; and
6 WHEREAS, To achieve a just and fair society, we must teach
7 our children to respect one another, to appreciate our differences,
8 and to recognize the common good in all of us; and
9 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
10 come from all walks of life, regardless of race, ethnicity, color,
11 religion, ancestry, national origin, economic status, physical or
12 mental ability, medical condition, sex, or gender identity or
13 expression; and
14 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
15 have made important and lasting contributions to our great state
16 and nation in every field of endeavor, including, but not limited
17 to, business, medicine, law, humanities, science, literature, politics,
18 education, music, philanthropy, sports and athletics, arts, and
19 culture, that enrich our national life; and
20 WHEREAS, For the first time in the history of the United States,
21 a sitting President and Vice President, President Barack Obama
22 and Vice President Joe Biden, affirmed their support for the
23 fundamental right to marry, regardless of sexual orientation or
24 gender; and

1 WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States struck
2 down a provision of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA),
3 which barred the federal government from recognizing same-sex
4 marriages, affirming that all loving and committed couples who
5 are married deserve equal treatment and respect; and

6 WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States ruled that
7 Proposition 8 sponsors had no standing to appeal the federal trial
8 court's decision that Proposition 8 is unconstitutional, thereby
9 restoring marriage equality in California; and

10 WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States is now
11 considering the constitutional basis for marriage equality and
12 whether the millions of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender
13 individuals across the country are able to marry whom they love;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, A growing number of married same-sex couples
16 now enjoy the same rights and privileges granted to other married
17 couples, including joint tax filings, military benefits, family and
18 medical leave, and the ability to sponsor a foreign spouse; and

19 WHEREAS, More lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
20 are being elected to public offices across the country, playing in
21 professional sports leagues, occupying the highest positions in
22 business, and serving as role models for all; and

23 WHEREAS, The transgender community, in particular, has
24 gained newfound prominence in media, entertainment, sports and
25 business, raising awareness about gender identity and the obstacles
26 this community continues to face; and

27 WHEREAS, While our great state and nation have progressed
28 in our journey toward dignity, understanding, and mutual respect
29 for all, we still have a long way to go to eradicate the prejudice
30 and discrimination that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender
31 people and their families encounter, and to this end, we continue
32 working for the passage of the inclusive federal Employment
33 Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), comprehensive immigration
34 reform, and increased awareness of the difficulties facing the
35 transgender community; and

36 WHEREAS, Friends and allies of the LGBT community have
37 shown considerable support and commitment to the struggles of
38 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people at home and abroad;
39 and

1 WHEREAS, To build a stronger and better state and nation, we
2 must continue to help advance the cause of equality for all people;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Each year, June marks the anniversary of the
5 Stonewall Rebellion that gave birth to the modern lesbian, gay,
6 bisexual, and transgender civil rights movement; and

7 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has proclaimed June as
8 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month and
9 reaffirmed his administration's goal of eliminating prejudice
10 everywhere it exists and celebrating the great diversity of the
11 American people; and

12 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans,
13 their families and friends, and all those committed to justice and
14 equality celebrate, during the month of June, the rich culture, the
15 notable achievements, and the outstanding services that lesbian,
16 gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans make to our great state
17 and nation; now, therefore, be it

18 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the Senate
19 proclaims June 2015 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender
20 (LGBT) Pride Month, urges all residents to join in celebrating the
21 culture, accomplishments, and contributions of lesbian, gay,
22 bisexual, and transgender people, and encourages the people of
23 California to work to help advance the cause of equality for lesbian,
24 gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their families; and be it
25 further

26 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
27 this resolution to the Members of the Legislature and to the author
28 for appropriate distribution.