

**Introduced by Senator Pan  
(Coauthor: Senator Wolk)**

May 5, 2015

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 55—Relative to the centennial of the founding of Locke, California.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 55, as introduced, Pan. Centennial of the founding of Locke, California.

This measure would commemorate the centennial of the founding of Locke, California, would recognize and honor Locke, California, as the last remaining Chinatown in North America, and would urge all Californians to learn about the important history of Locke, California, and its inhabitants.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The year 2015, marks the centennial of the  
2 founding of Locke, California; and

3 WHEREAS, Locke, California, is the only town in the United  
4 States of America built exclusively by the Chinese for the Chinese,  
5 and is the last remaining Chinatown in North America, as all other  
6 Chinatowns are connected to, or lay adjacent to, an existing town  
7 or city; and

8 WHEREAS, Locke, California, was found in 1915 after the  
9 Chinese section of Walnut Grove, California, was destroyed by a  
10 fire and the Chinese inhabitants decided that it was time to establish  
11 a town of their own; and

12 WHEREAS, The inhabitants of Locke, California, have made  
13 tremendous contributions to farming methods that spearheaded

1 California's leadership in agriculture, especially as it pertained to  
2 pear orchards and asparagus fields; and

3 WHEREAS, Locke, California, was instrumental in reclaiming  
4 swamps along the Sacramento River Delta and turning them into  
5 rich arable farmlands; and

6 WHEREAS, Levee construction originally brought the Chinese  
7 to the area, but by the time Locke, California, was built most of  
8 the jobs in the area were in farming and this resulted in Locke,  
9 California, having many businesses that catered to the farm workers  
10 and residents of the region; and

11 WHEREAS, From the 1920s through the 1940s, Locke,  
12 California, had a permanent population of 600, which swelled to  
13 1,000 during the harvest season; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1970, Locke, California, was added to the  
15 Registry of National Historic Places by the Sacramento County  
16 Historical Society; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1990, Locke, California, was named as a  
18 National Historic Landmark by the United States Department of  
19 the Interior; now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
21 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature commemorates the  
22 centennial of the founding of Locke, California, and urges all  
23 Californians to learn about the important history of Locke,  
24 California, and its inhabitants; and be it further

25 *Resolved*, That the Legislature recognizes and honors Locke,  
26 California, as the last remaining Chinatown in North America; and  
27 be it further

28 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
29 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.