

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 14, 1997

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 30

Introduced by Senators Johnston, Alpert, Costa, Craven, Hughes, Karnette, Lee, Leslie, Lockyer, McPherson, O'Connell, Peace, Rainey, Solis, Thompson, Vasconcellos, and Watson

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Ackerman, Alby, Aroner, Baca, Baldwin, Battin, Bowler, Bustamante, Cardoza, Cunneen, Ducheny, Gallegos, Granlund, Knox, Leach, Lempert, Machado, Martinez, Mazzoni, McClintock, Migden, Olberg, Ortiz, Shelley, Strom-Martin, Sweeney, Takasugi, Washington, Wayne, ~~and Woods~~) *Woods, Aguiar, Alquist, Ashburn, Baugh, Bordonaro, Bowen, Brewer, Brown, Caldera, Campbell, Cardenas, Davis, Escutia, Figueroa, Firestone, Frusetta, Havice, Honda, House, Kaloogian, Keeley, Kuehl, Kuykendall, Leonard, Margett, Miller, Morrissey, Morrow, Murray, Napolitano, Oller, Perata, Poochigian, Prenter, Pringle, Richter, Runner, Scott, Thompson, Thomson, Torlakson, Villaraigosa, Vincent, Wildman, and Wright*)

March 10, 1997

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 30—Relative to Flood Emergency Worker Recognition Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 30, as amended, Johnston. Flood Emergency Worker Recognition Day.

This measure would designate April 17, 1997, as Flood Emergency Worker Recognition Day, with special

observances to be scheduled in the State Capitol on that date, and would encourage the people of the state to give thanks on that day for public workers, employees of nonprofit agencies, and volunteers who aided their fellow Californians during the major winter storms commencing on December 26, 1996.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, California has experienced a series of
2 major winter storms commencing on December 26, 1996,
3 that caused the worst flooding in recorded state history,
4 and resulting in a 125-year flooding of the Tuolumne
5 River, a 100-year flooding of the Feather and Yuba Rivers,
6 and a 50-year flooding of the Sacramento River, with
7 more than 30 breaks along the state managed levees, and
8 an untold number of breaks along private levees; and

9 WHEREAS, The flooding has claimed at least eight
10 lives, destroyed more than 3,000 homes and wreaked
11 damage and havoc to many thousands more, and forced
12 more than 100,000 people from their homes to stay in
13 emergency shelters and in the homes of friends and
14 relatives; and

15 WHEREAS, Fifty California counties have been
16 declared disaster areas by the Governor and Acting
17 Governor of California and by the President of the United
18 States, and two key California highways, U.S. 50 through
19 the Sierra to South Lake Tahoe and U.S. 395 north of
20 Mammoth Lakes, remained closed for more than three
21 weeks because of the need for extensive repairs, resulting
22 in untold loss of business and damage to the livelihoods of
23 those businesses and communities affected by this
24 disaster; and

25 WHEREAS, The early damage tallies from
26 flood-ravaged California stand at no less than \$1.6 billion,
27 with more than 1,000 businesses damaged or destroyed,
28 with agricultural losses estimated at more than \$155
29 million including downed livestock, ruined wheat crops,
30 boats torn from moorings, and damage costs to the state
31 highway system estimated at no less than \$50 million; and

32 WHEREAS, Many thousands of California citizens
33 devoted tireless hours and tremendous resources, braved



1 perilous conditions, and even placed their own lives at
2 risk to protect the lives and properties of their fellow
3 Californians; and

4 WHEREAS, California's private, nonprofit, and public
5 sector workers, including our state, federal and local
6 employees, especially distinguished themselves in their
7 devotion to their duties as emergency workers or as
8 volunteers; and

9 WHEREAS, The unselfish and dedicated commitment
10 of these individuals, who work for the Department of
11 Transportation, the Department of Forestry and Fire
12 Protection, public agencies including city and county
13 police departments, sheriff and fire departments,
14 emergency operations and planning, hazardous
15 materials, public utilities and public works departments,
16 environmental management, health departments,
17 human and social services departments, mental health,
18 building inspections, construction inspection, emergency
19 medical services, sewer and water, highway
20 maintenance, area flood control agencies, ditch
21 maintenance, drainage and sewer, flood control, garbage
22 and refuse collection, agricultural commissioners, and
23 animal control departments of the affected counties,
24 along with State of California employees including those
25 of the Office of Emergency Services, California Highway
26 Patrol, California Conservation Corps, Emergency
27 Medical Services Authority, Corrections, Department of
28 the Youth Authority, State Department of Health
29 Services, Department of Water Resources, U.S. Corps of
30 Engineers, National Guard, Department of Consumer
31 Affairs, Department of General Services, Hazard Section
32 in Office of Emergency Services, Cal EPA-OEHA, State
33 Department of Mental Health, State Department of
34 Social Services, and nonprofit agencies, including the
35 American Red Cross and the Salvation Army, saved
36 thousands of lives and helped minimize the potentially
37 catastrophic property damage; now therefore, be it

38 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the*
39 *Assembly thereof concurring,* That the Legislature of the
40 State of California hereby designates April 17, 1997, as



1 Flood Emergency Worker Recognition Day, with special
2 observances to be scheduled in the State Capitol on that
3 date, and that the people of the state be encouraged to
4 give thanks on that day for our outstanding public
5 workers, for the employees of nonprofit agencies, and for
6 all the volunteers whose good will and personal courage
7 moved them to willingly and selflessly put their lives on
8 the line to aid their fellow Californians; and be it further
9 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit
10 copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate
11 distribution.

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