

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 18

**Introduced by Assembly Members Machado and Davis
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Cardoza, Longville, and
Wayne)**

February 25, 1999

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 18—Relative to
California Veterans Day, 1999.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 18, as introduced, Machado. Relative to California
Veterans Day, 1999.

This measure would designate Thursday, November 11,
1999, as California Veterans Day, 1999.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The people of California have a special
2 affinity for, and are greatly indebted to, the myriad brave
3 men and women in the United States military who serve
4 and have served to protect and defend our precious
5 freedom; and

6 WHEREAS, All Californians are encouraged to
7 remember the great debt of gratitude that we as free
8 Californians owe to our veterans; and

9 WHEREAS, Since the days of the American Revolution
10 (1776–1781), nearly 42,000,000 patriots have taken up
11 arms to defend America and to guarantee that the
12 blessings of liberty are, indeed, secure; and

1 WHEREAS, The significance of November 11 was
2 originally set aside as Armistice Day in the United States
3 to remember the sacrifices that men and women made
4 during the First World War (1914–1918) in order to
5 ensure a lasting peace; and

6 WHEREAS, On Armistice Day 1918, soldiers who
7 survived the terrific onslaught and loss of life brought on
8 by “The Great War,” as it was often referred to, marched
9 in parades through their hometowns and were treated to
10 great victory speeches given by politicians and veteran
11 officers of the day; and

12 WHEREAS, Sixty-one years ago, in 1938, 20 years after
13 World War I had concluded, the United States Congress
14 voted to make Armistice Day a legal holiday; and

15 WHEREAS, Forty-six years ago, in 1953, the
16 townspeople of Emporia, Kansas were first attributed to
17 calling the new federal holiday Veterans Day, in tribute
18 to the town’s many servicemen and women veterans; and

19 WHEREAS, Shortly thereafter, a popular movement
20 focused its attention and efforts upon our nation’s capital
21 toward the renaming of Armistice Day, a legal holiday
22 honoring veterans from World War I, to more
23 appropriately Veterans Day, a legal holiday specifically
24 honoring all veterans of the United States Armed Forces;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, In recognition of, and gratitude for, the
27 contributions of those who have served in our Armed
28 Forces, the United States Congress has designated
29 November 11 of each year as a legal public holiday (5
30 U.S.C. 6103(a)) to honor America’s veterans; and

31 WHEREAS, Americans still give thanks for peace on
32 Veterans Day, often participating in local ceremonies,
33 speeches, town picnics, and parades; and

34 WHEREAS, Each year, on the 11th day of the 11th
35 month, November, we pause to look back and reflect with
36 pride and profound gratitude upon the achievements of
37 our nation’s veterans; and

38 WHEREAS, California has a strong commitment to
39 those who have served their nation during times of war;
40 and



1 WHEREAS, Many structures and monuments have
2 been erected in observance of the service and great
3 sacrifices of all California's estimated 3,300,000 veterans
4 (13 percent of the nation's population); and

5 WHEREAS, California's commitment to its veterans
6 must not wane or be forgotten; and

7 WHEREAS, It is appropriate, on this 81st anniversary
8 of the first Armistice Day, that California's veterans be
9 commemorated for their heroic efforts in the struggle for
10 democracy; now, therefore, be it

11 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the*
12 *Senate thereof concurring,* That the Legislature
13 recognizes California's veterans for the great service and
14 sacrifices that they have made for our liberty; and be it
15 further

16 *Resolved,* That all Californians are encouraged to
17 remember the great debt of gratitude that we as free
18 Californians owe to our veterans, and that we freely
19 participate in patriotic activities in our communities; and
20 be it further

21 *Resolved,* That the Legislature hereby designates
22 November 11, 1999, as California Veterans Day, 1999, to
23 promote the recognition and appreciation of the great
24 service and sacrifices made by California's veterans in
25 order to secure our liberty.

