

Introduced by Senator Burton and Chesbro
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Mazzoni, Strom-Martin,
and Wiggins)

January 26, 1999

Senate Joint Resolution No. 3—Relative to the U.S. Coast Guard Training Facility (TRACEN) Petaluma.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 3, as introduced, Burton. U.S. Coast Guard.

This measure would memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States, and the United States Coast Guard to continue the operation of the United States Coast Guard Training Facility (TRACEN) Petaluma.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The United States Coast Guard is
2 presently assessing its training structure for
3 cost-effectiveness and is considering consolidating or
4 closing one or two of its five training centers including the
5 United States Coast Guard Training Center (TRACEN)
6 Petaluma in the rural community of Two Rock,
7 California; and
8 WHEREAS, TRACEN Petaluma is the only Coast
9 Guard training facility on the west coast, while the Coast
10 Guard maintains four other training centers on the
11 eastern seaboard; and
12 WHEREAS, In the case of a prolonged national
13 emergency, a Coast Guard training facility on the west

1 coast has both logistic and strategic value to the service’s
2 two-ocean mission and to national security; and

3 WHEREAS, The mild California coastal climate makes
4 it possible for TRACEN Petaluma to conduct outdoor
5 exercises year round; and

6 WHEREAS, The Coast Guard has invested more than
7 \$50 million in TRACEN Petaluma since its inception,
8 including \$29 million to construct a state-of-the-art
9 electronics and telecommunications training facility; and

10 WHEREAS, The rural community of Two Rock is
11 dependent on TRACEN Petaluma for the continued
12 existence of its neighborhood school and for fire and
13 emergency services; and

14 WHEREAS, TRACEN Petaluma contributes \$24.9
15 million annually to the North Bay economy in an area that
16 has been severely impacted by military base closures; and

17 WHEREAS, The closings of veterans hospitals in
18 California have increased the dependence of retired
19 military on the health services available at the TRACEN
20 Petaluma medical facility; and

21 WHEREAS, TRACEN Petaluma also houses essential
22 non-Coast Guard training activities for police, fire, and
23 emergency personnel and rangers employed by local,
24 state, and federal agencies operating throughout the
25 region; and

26 WHEREAS, These entities have no other place to
27 continue their training activities in the near future; and

28 WHEREAS, TRACEN Petaluma has a tradition of
29 excellence recognized by the Coast Guard, a well-earned
30 reputation for community involvement, and a legacy of
31 environmental stewardship;

32 *Resolved by the Senate and Assembly of the State of*
33 *California, jointly* That the Legislature believes the
34 continued operation of the United States Coast Guard
35 Training Center (TRACEN) Petaluma is beneficial to the
36 critical public safety and national security mission of the
37 United States Coast Guard, and to the people and
38 economy of California; and be it further

39 *Resolved,* That the Legislature respectfully
40 memorializes the President and the Congress of the



1 United States, and the United States Coast Guard to
2 continue the operation of the United States Coast Guard
3 Training Facility (TRACEN) Petaluma through
4 increased utilization of its facilities and more efficient use
5 of the Coast Guard's east-coast facilities; and be it further
6 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit
7 copies of this resolution to the President and Vice
8 President of the United States, to the Speaker of the
9 House of Representatives and each Senator and
10 Representative from California in the Congress of the
11 United States, and to the United States Coast Guard.

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