

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 30

Introduced by Assembly Member Liu

(Principal coauthor: Senator Speier)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Berg, Cohn, Evans, Goldberg, Hancock, Karnette, Lieber, Matthews, Montanez, Negrete McLeod, Oropeza, Pavley, Saldana, and Wolk)

(Coauthors: Senators Bowen, Ducheny, Escutia, Figueroa, Kehoe, Kuehl, Migden, Ortiz, and Romero)

August 15, 2005

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 30—Relative to Women’s Equality Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 30, as introduced, Liu. Women’s Equality Day.

This measure would memorialize the Congress and the President of the United States to uphold protections of women’s equality and to encourage all Americans to participate in the celebration of Women’s Equality Day on August 26, 2005, the 85th anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which gave women the right to vote.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, August 26, 2005, marks the 85th anniversary of
- 2 passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States
- 3 Constitution and is Women’s Equality Day, a day deserving of
- 4 celebration and special public commendation; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott
- 6 organized the first Women’s Rights Convention in 1848 in
- 7 Seneca Falls, New York, where 100 women and men from all

1 walks of life declared that “all men and women are created
2 equal” and called for universal women’s suffrage; and

3 WHEREAS, Several generations of suffragists fought for the
4 right for women to vote and few early participants in this massive
5 civil rights movement lived to see the victory in 1920.

6 WHEREAS, On August 26, 1920, after a 72-year struggle, the
7 Nineteenth Amendment was added to the United States
8 Constitution, securing a woman’s right to vote; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1971, the United States Congress designated
10 August 26 as Women’s Equality Day to commemorate the
11 passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States
12 Constitution and as a reminder of the need for continuing efforts
13 for women to achieve full equality; and

14 WHEREAS, Since 1920, women have made tremendous gains
15 in society, including the right to vote, the right to be free from
16 discrimination in employment, and the right to equal access to
17 education, including sports; and

18 WHEREAS, Despite these gains, women still need to make
19 great strides in order to achieve civic, economic and social
20 equality; and

21 WHEREAS, Women still earn only 76 cents to every dollar
22 earned by a man, women disproportionately live in poverty,
23 women are more likely to be victims of domestic violence than
24 men, and female athletes have fewer participation opportunities
25 and far few dollars spent on women’s athletics than on men’s
26 athletics programs; and

27 WHEREAS, On August 26, 2005, Women’s Equality Day and
28 the anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, the
29 women and men who have worked tirelessly to secure equality
30 for women are to be commended for what they have achieved
31 thus far and supported in their continued efforts to champion the
32 rights of women; now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
34 *California, jointly*, That the Legislature of the State of California
35 memorializes the United States Congress and the President of the
36 United States to do all of the following:

37 (1) Dedicate themselves to upholding the current legal
38 protections of equality for women.

39 (2) Continue to pioneer new protections of equality for women
40 until women achieve parity with men.

1 (3) Encourage all Americans to participate in the national
2 celebration of Women's Equality Day in recognition of the 85th
3 anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States
4 Constitution and its historic importance in promoting women's
5 rights; and be it further
6 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit
7 copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and
8 to all Members of the United States Congress.

O