

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 44

Introduced by Assembly Member Fuentes

February 27, 2009

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 44—Relative to the federal decennial census.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 44, as introduced, Fuentes. Federal decennial census.

This measure would strongly urge the Governor to act immediately to declare April 1, 2009, to be California Census Awareness Day and to conduct outreach and promotional events on this date and throughout the next year leading up to the federal decennial census in order to advance the goal of a complete and accurate count of all Californians.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, The United States Constitution requires an
2 enumeration of the population every 10 years known as the United
3 States decennial census; and
4 WHEREAS, The next federal decennial census will occur on
5 April 1, 2010; and
6 WHEREAS, A complete and accurate count of Californians is
7 critical to our state because census figures affect federal
8 congressional representation, state redistricting, federal formula
9 grant allocations, and state funding to local governments and local
10 programs for the next 10 years; and
11 WHEREAS, A high undercount in the upcoming census could
12 cost the state a seat in the House of Representatives for the first
13 time in history; and

1 WHEREAS, California benefits substantially from federal
2 programs tied to census figures, and an undercount of the state's
3 population would severely impact funding for health, human
4 services, education, and other programs; and

5 WHEREAS, Despite outreach efforts in connection with the
6 2000 census, 522,796 Californians were not counted, resulting in
7 a loss of \$1.5 billion in federal funding for the state; and

8 WHEREAS, Future outreach efforts depend on strong
9 partnerships with state, local, and tribal governments,
10 community-based organizations, faith-based groups, schools,
11 businesses, the media, and others; and

12 WHEREAS, Sufficient time is necessary to raise awareness,
13 promote education, and extend outreach strategies to complement
14 the United States Census Bureau's regional efforts; now, therefore,
15 be it

16 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
17 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature strongly urges the
18 Governor to act immediately to declare April 1, 2009, to be
19 California Census Awareness Day and to conduct outreach and
20 promotional events on this date and throughout the next year
21 leading up to the federal decennial census in order to advance the
22 goal of a complete and accurate count of all Californians; and be
23 it further

24 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
25 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.