

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 5

Introduced by Assembly Member Torlakson

December 3, 2008

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 5—Relative to California Science Education Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 5, as introduced, Torlakson. California Science Education Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of March 2009 as California Science Education Month, and would extend Legislature's support to pupils of all ages who are interested in science.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, California is an intellectual center for advances in
2 science through academic and industrial research, and California
3 is also a leader in the computer and information sciences, life
4 sciences, physical sciences, natural sciences, military sciences,
5 environmental sciences, and agriculture sciences, having originated
6 great innovation and progress in each of these fields; and

7 WHEREAS, The cycle of innovation in the sciences has brought
8 great benefits to the State of California, including improvements
9 to the physical health and living standards of Californians and the
10 world at large, and improvements to the intellectual and economic
11 health of the state; and

12 WHEREAS, California has become a world leader in scientific
13 discovery in the disciplines of computer and information

1 technology, clean technology, nanotechnology, medicine,
2 biotechnology, and environmental science; and

3 WHEREAS, New jobs in California are growing most rapidly
4 in areas that require strong foundations in science, engineering,
5 and technology, and eight of the 10 fastest growing occupations
6 in the United States are related to science, mathematics, or
7 technology, with an expected increase of 2.2 million science- and
8 engineering-related jobs by 2010; and

9 WHEREAS, California is experiencing a critical shortage of
10 skilled American workers in scientific industries that is threatening
11 our state's ability to compete in the global marketplace; and

12 WHEREAS, The state is now focused on ushering in the next
13 generation of great scientific leaders by encouraging its youth to
14 engage in this noble pursuit; and

15 WHEREAS, California needs to cultivate the scientific talents
16 of all of its pupils, particularly those from groups that are
17 underrepresented in science and technology, including women,
18 minorities, and persons with disabilities; and

19 WHEREAS, Given the growing threat to America's preeminence
20 in science and technology, celebrations of science and of science
21 education, such as the San Diego Science Festival and the Sally
22 Ride Science Festival, and innovations in science classrooms across
23 California, are all critical to raising pupil and public awareness of
24 the dramatic impact science has on our lives, and to inspiring the
25 next generation of scientific leaders; and

26 WHEREAS, The health and economic benefits provided to our
27 state by the businesses and institutions involved in the full range
28 of scientific industries are numerous; now, therefore, be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
30 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims the month of
31 March 2009 as California Science Education Month, and extends
32 its support to pupils of all ages who are interested in science; and
33 be it further

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

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