

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 45**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Fong**

June 29, 2010

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Assembly Joint Resolution No. 45—Relative to Lifelong Learning Accounts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 45, as introduced, Fong. Lifelong Learning Accounts.

This measure would urge the federal government to create and fund programs that encourage lifelong learning, such as Lifelong Learning Accounts, within California.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1     WHEREAS, California has a lower percentage of young adults,  
2     ages 25 to 34, who have completed high school or who have earned  
3     a college degree than the national average; and  
4     WHEREAS, 66 percent of California's working adults, ages 18  
5     to 64, over 15 million adults, are without an associate's degree,  
6     college degree or a higher degree; and  
7     WHEREAS, Working-age adults in California are 27 percent  
8     more likely to participate in the workforce than those with only a  
9     high school diploma; and  
10    WHEREAS, The lifetime earnings of Californians with a college  
11    education are more than double those of Californians without this  
12    education. Persons with a college education also have fewer health  
13    problems, are less likely to commit crimes, are more likely to  
14    participate in civic activities, and are able to create more resources  
15    for the state; and

1 WHEREAS, The federal government encourages the citizens  
2 of the United States to gain more education so as to enable the  
3 country to compete more effectively in the global economy; and

4 WHEREAS, All levels of government could encourage savings  
5 to pay for higher education opportunities for working adults to  
6 allow those adults to acquire new skills, raise their standard of  
7 living, and prepare them to be part of the workforce in our changing  
8 economy; and

9 WHEREAS, Lifelong Learning Accounts have been shown to  
10 be an effective method to encourage employers and employees to  
11 set aside money to pay for tuition, fees, supplies, materials, and  
12 books necessary for further education and training; and

13 WHEREAS, The Legislature supports the creation of innovative  
14 programs that encourages lifelong learning, including Lifelong  
15 Learning Accounts, that might be available through funding from  
16 the federal government because those programs will lead to a more  
17 skilled workforce which will, in turn, help California maintain its  
18 role as an economic leader in today's changing economy; now  
19 therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*  
21 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature of the State of California  
22 urges the federal government to create and fund programs that  
23 encourage lifelong learning, such as Lifelong Learning Accounts,  
24 within California; and be it further

25 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
26 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
27 States, to the Secretary of Labor, to the Secretary of Education, to  
28 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator  
29 and Representative from California in the Congress of the United  
30 States.

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