

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 47

Introduced by Assembly Member Saldaña

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Ammiano, Arambula, Bass, Beall, Block, Blumenfield, Bradford, Brownley, Buchanan, Caballero, Carter, Chesbro, Conway, Coto, Davis, De La Torre, De León, Eng, Evans, Feuer, Fong, Fuentes, Furutani, Gatto, Hall, Harkey, Hernandez, Hill, Huber, Huffman, Lieu, Bonnie Lowenthal, Ma, Mendoza, Monning, Nava, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Portantino, Ruskin, Salas, Skinner, Solorio, Swanson, Torlakson, Torres, Torrico, and Yamada)

(Coauthors: Senators DeSaulnier, Hancock, Liu, Oropeza, Romero, and Wolk)

August 17, 2010

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 47—Relative to Women’s Equality Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 47, as introduced, Saldaña. 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, 2010, the 90th 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, 2010, marks the 90th anniversary of
2 passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States

1 Constitution and is Women’s Equality Day, a day deserving of
2 celebration and special public commendation; and

3 WHEREAS, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Martha C.
4 Wright, Mary Ann McClintock, and Jane Hunt organized the first
5 Women’s Rights Convention in 1848 in Seneca Falls, New York,
6 where 100 women and men from all walks of life affixed their
7 signatures to the Declaration of Sentiments, which proclaimed that
8 “all men and women are created equal” and are “endowed with
9 certain inalienable rights,” including elective franchise; and

10 WHEREAS, Several generations of suffragists fought for
11 women’s right to vote and few early participants in this massive
12 civil rights movement lived to see the victory in 1920; and

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

16 WHEREAS, In 1971, the United States Congress designated
17 August 26 as Women’s Equality Day to commemorate the
18 ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States
19 Constitution and as a reminder of the need for continuing efforts
20 for women to achieve full equality; and

21 WHEREAS, Since 1920, women have made tremendous gains
22 in society, including the right to vote, the right to be free from
23 discrimination in employment, and the right to equal access to
24 education, including sports; and

25 WHEREAS, Despite these gains, women still need to make
26 great strides in order to achieve civic, economic, and social
27 equality; and

28 WHEREAS, Women still earn only 77 cents to every dollar
29 earned by a man, disproportionately live in poverty, and are more
30 likely to be victims of domestic violence than men, female athletes
31 have fewer participation opportunities than male athletes, and far
32 fewer dollars are spent on women’s athletics programs than on
33 men’s athletics programs; and

34 WHEREAS, On August 26, 2010, Women’s Equality Day and
35 the anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, the
36 women and men who have worked tirelessly to secure equality for
37 women are to be commended for what they have achieved thus
38 far and supported in their continued efforts to champion the rights
39 of women; now, therefore, be it

