

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 9, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 82

Introduced by Assembly Member Hall

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Block, ~~Eng, Huffman, and Monning~~
Blumenfield, Brownley, Buchanan, Eng, Fuentes, Huffman,
Monning, Solorio, and Torlakson)**

(Coauthor: Senator Maldonado)

June 16, 2009

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 82—Relative to public education and discrimination-free zones.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 82, as amended, Hall. Public education: "Discrimination Free Zones."

This measure would encourage public education institutions to designate each campus as a "Discrimination-Free Zone" to provide a safe haven from intolerance or discrimination, to enact appropriate procedures that meaningfully address acts of discrimination that occur on campus, to notify parents and the campus community of existing policies and procedures that encourage tolerance of others, and to use existing resources to identify themselves as "Discrimination-Free Zones" to create a campus climate that welcomes diversity and supports the tolerance of others.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, California has the largest public school system in
- 2 the nation, prekindergarten through university, which is key in
- 3 addressing California's infrastructure and economic needs, and

1 represents a state that honors and respects the diversity of its
2 citizens; and

3 WHEREAS, California’s public educators encourage
4 inclusiveness among the students they educate, and serve the needs
5 of a diverse student body that reflects the diversity of the state;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, That diversity reflects the racial, cultural, religious,
8 disability, gender, gender identity, economic circumstance, and
9 sexual orientation of its citizens seeking access to California’s
10 public education; and

11 WHEREAS, The Legislature condemns all acts of
12 discrimination, intolerance, and hate aimed at individuals that
13 reflect the state’s diversity; and

14 WHEREAS, Although the state has enacted numerous laws to
15 oppose acts of discrimination, intolerance continues to pervade
16 many of our public schools and colleges; and

17 WHEREAS, The Legislature is committed to upholding
18 fundamental and inalienable rights, including the freedoms of
19 religion, speech, assembly, and privacy; now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved, by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
21 *thereof, concurring,* That the Legislature of the State of California
22 hereby encourages all public education institutions, working with
23 students, teachers, faculty, and other members of the public
24 education community, to designate each campus as a
25 “Discrimination-Free Zone” to provide a safe haven from
26 intolerance or discrimination; and be it further

27 *Resolved,* That all public education institutions, prekindergarten
28 through university campuses, are encouraged to develop and enact
29 policies that support tolerance and acceptance of others regardless
30 of their race, ~~culture or ethnicity~~, religion, disability, gender, gender
31 identity, ~~economic circumstance~~, or sexual orientation, *nationality,*
32 *or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of*
33 *hate crimes set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code;* and be
34 it further

35 *Resolved,* That all public education institutions are encouraged
36 to enact procedures, such as counseling services and conflict
37 management, that meaningfully address acts of discrimination that
38 occur on campus; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That parents and the campus community should be
2 notified of existing policies and procedures that encourage
3 tolerance of others; and be it further

4 *Resolved*, That all public education institutions are encouraged
5 to use existing resources to identify themselves as
6 “Discrimination-Free Zones” through placards, signs, notices of
7 available services, and other appropriate identifications to create
8 a campus climate that welcomes diversity and supports the
9 tolerance of others; and be it further

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