

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 26, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 135

Introduced by Assembly Member Smyth

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Ammiano, Anderson, Beall, Bill Berryhill, Tom Berryhill, Blakeslee, Block, Blumenfield, Bradford, Brownley, Buchanan, Caballero, Charles Calderon, Carter, Chesbro, Conway, Cook, Coto, Davis, De La Torre, De Leon, DeVore, Emmerson, Eng, Evans, Feuer, Fletcher, Fong, Fuentes, Gaines, Galgiani, Garrick, Gilmore, Hagman, Hall, Harkey, Hayashi, Hernandez, Hill, Huber, Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Knight, Lieu, Logue, Bonnie Lowenthal, Ma, Mendoza, Miller, Monning, Nava, Nestande, Niello, Nielsen, Portantino, Ruskin, Saldana, Silva, Skinner, Solorio, Audra Strickland, Swanson, Torlakson, Torres, Torrico, Tran, Villines, and Yamada)

February 19, 2010

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 135—Relative to West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 135, as amended, Smyth. West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week.

This measure would declare April 26 through April 30, 2010, as West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne disease that
- 2 can result in debilitating cases of meningitis and encephalitis and
- 3 death to humans, horses, avian species, and other wildlife; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2009, West Nile virus resulted in four deaths in
2 California and 105 individuals from 19 counties tested positive
3 for the virus; and

4 WHEREAS, The State Department of Public Health and the
5 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predict West Nile virus
6 will again pose a grave public health threat in California in 2010;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Adequately funded mosquito and vector control,
9 disease surveillance, and public awareness programs are the best
10 ways to prevent outbreaks of West Nile virus and other diseases
11 borne by mosquitoes and other vectors; and

12 WHEREAS, Mosquitoes and other vectors, including, but not
13 limited to, ticks, Africanized honeybees, rats, fleas, and flies,
14 continue to be a source of human suffering, illness, death, and a
15 public nuisance in California and around the world; and

16 WHEREAS, Excess numbers of mosquitoes and other vectors
17 spread diseases, reduce enjoyment of both public and private
18 outdoor living spaces, reduce property values, hinder outdoor work,
19 and reduce livestock productivity; and

20 WHEREAS, Professional mosquito and vector control based on
21 scientific research has made great advances in reducing mosquito
22 and vector populations and the diseases they transmit; and

23 WHEREAS, Established mosquito- and vector-borne diseases
24 such as plague, Lyme disease, and encephalitis, and new and
25 emerging vector-borne diseases such as hantavirus, arenavirus,
26 babesiosis, and ehrlichiosis cause illness and sometimes death
27 every year in California; and

28 WHEREAS, Mosquito and vector control districts throughout
29 the State of California work closely with the United States
30 Environmental Protection Agency and the State Department of
31 Public Health to reduce pesticide risks to humans, animals, and
32 the environment while protecting human health from mosquito-
33 and vector-borne diseases and nuisance attacks; and

34 WHEREAS, The public's awareness of the health benefits
35 associated with safe, professionally applied mosquito and vector
36 control methods will support these efforts, as well as motivate the
37 public to eliminate mosquito and vector breeding sites on private
38 property; and

39 WHEREAS, Educational programs have been developed to
40 include schools, civic groups, private industry, and government

agencies, in order to meet the public’s need for information about West Nile virus, other diseases, and mosquito and vector biology and control; and

WHEREAS, Public awareness can result in reduced production of mosquitoes and other vectors on private, commercial, and public lands by responsible parties, avoidance of the bites of mosquitoes and other vectors when the risk of West Nile virus and other disease transmission is high, detection of human cases of mosquito- and vector-borne diseases that may otherwise be misdiagnosed for lack of appropriate laboratory testing, and the formation of mosquito or vector control agencies where needed; and

WHEREAS, Public awareness can result in action to provide adequate funding for existing mosquito and vector control agencies or to create control agencies in areas where there are no existing controls; and

WHEREAS, West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week will increase the public’s awareness of the threat of West Nile virus and other diseases and the activities of the various mosquito and vector research and control agencies working to minimize the health threat within California, and will highlight the educational programs currently available; and

WHEREAS, The Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California has designated the week of April 26 through April 30, 2010, as West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week in the State of California; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby declares that the week of April 26 through April 30, 2010, be designated as West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness Week; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the transmit a copy of this resolution to the Governor, State Public Health Officer, and the author for appropriate distribution.

CORRECTIONS:

Heading—Coauthors—Line 11.

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