

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 14, 2009

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 21

Introduced by Senator Kehoe

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Anderson, Arambula, Beall, Blakeslee, Block, Blumenfield, Brownley, Buchanan, Caballero, Charles Calderon, Carter, Chesbro, Conway, Coto, Davis, De La Torre, De Leon, DeVore, Duvall, Emmerson, Eng, Evans, Feuer, Fletcher, Fong, Furutani, Galgiani, Garrick, Gilmore, Hagman, Harkey, Hayashi, Hernandez, Hill, Huber, Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Knight, Krekorian, Lieu, Logue, Bonnie Lowenthal, Ma, Mendoza, Monning, Nava, Niello, Nielsen, John A. Perez, V. Manuel Perez, Portantino, Ruskin, Salas, Silva, Skinner, Solorio, Audra Strickland, Swanson, Torlakson, Torres, Torrico, Tran, and Yamada)

March 9, 2009

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 21—Relative to the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 21, as amended, Kehoe. The Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management.

This measure continues in existence the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Services and Homeland Security, renames it as the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management, comprised of 7 Members of the Senate and 7 Members of the Assembly, as specified, and authorizes the joint committee to act until November 30, 2010, and to address California's emergency management issues. This measure also authorizes the Senate Committee on Rules to make moneys

available from the Senate Operating Fund, as it deems necessary, to pay the expenses of the joint committee.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, California is the site of some of the most
2 extraordinary natural disasters in North America, including fires,
3 earthquakes, floods, landslides, mudslides, insect infestations, and
4 drought; and

5 WHEREAS, California is the nation’s most populous state and
6 home to many of the nation’s most critical military installations,
7 industrial facilities, ports, academic institutions, and tourist
8 destinations, and as such California is especially vulnerable to
9 potential acts of terrorism; and

10 WHEREAS, The failed governmental response to Hurricane
11 Katrina in 2005 indicates an immediate need to continue to assess
12 and improve upon California’s emergency preparedness and
13 response plans, especially in the following areas: the specific roles
14 of local, state, and federal agencies; evacuation planning;
15 interoperable communication systems; emergency warning
16 protocols; and private sector preparedness; and

17 WHEREAS, The ongoing threat of avian and pandemic flu could
18 also present unprecedented challenges to the state’s public health
19 system and thus place at risk the state’s residents and our economy;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, On November 2, 2003, Governor Gray Davis and
22 Governor-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger established a Blue Ribbon
23 Fire Commission representing federal, state, and local agencies,
24 the firefighting community, and certain communities; and

25 WHEREAS, The Blue Ribbon Fire Commission was established
26 to conduct a review of the efforts to fight the October 2003 fires
27 and present recommendations to make California less vulnerable
28 to disasters of such enormity in the future; and

29 WHEREAS, The Blue Ribbon Fire Commission, in its report
30 to the Governor, made numerous recommendations and prioritized
31 their importance, including the establishment of a permanent Joint
32 Legislative Committee on Emergency Services and Homeland
33 Security; and

34 WHEREAS, The Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency
35 Services and Homeland Security has been in continuous existence
36 since it was first established by Resolution Chapter 144 of the

1 Statutes of 2004, and subsequently reauthorized by Resolution
2 Chapter 106 of the Statutes of 2005 and Resolution Chapter 152
3 of the Statutes of 2006; and

4 WHEREAS, The Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency
5 Services and Homeland Security has provided essential oversight
6 of the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services and the
7 Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and conducted numerous
8 hearings on the subject of emergency preparedness and homeland
9 security issues; and

10 WHEREAS, The members of the Joint Legislative Committee
11 on Emergency Services and Homeland Security and the Legislature
12 recognize that the work of the joint committee needs to continue;
13 now, therefore, be it

14 *Resolved, by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
15 *thereof concurring,* That the Joint Legislative Committee on
16 Emergency Services and Homeland Security is continued in
17 existence from the 2007–08 Regular Session and shall hereafter
18 be referred to as the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency
19 Management in keeping with the merger of the Governor’s Office
20 of Emergency Services and the Governor’s Office of Homeland
21 Security into one agency known as the California Emergency
22 Management Agency, authorized pursuant to Assembly Bill 38
23 (Chapter 372, Statutes of 2008); and be it further

24 *Resolved,* That the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency
25 Management is authorized to act until November 30, 2010, when
26 its existence shall terminate; and be it further

27 *Resolved,* That the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency
28 Management shall consist of 14 members, and shall include seven
29 Members of the Senate appointed by the Senate Committee on
30 Rules, four from the political party having the largest number of
31 members in the Senate and three from the political party having
32 the second largest number of members, and seven Members of the
33 Assembly appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, four from
34 the political party having the largest number of members in the
35 Assembly and three from the political party having the second
36 largest number of members; and be it further

37 *Resolved,* That the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency
38 Management shall be under the direction of a chairperson and vice
39 chairperson that shall alternate between the Senate and the
40 Assembly from session to session; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency
2 Management may provide a public forum for discussion of
3 California’s emergency management issues related to natural or
4 human-caused threats to California; and be it further

5 *Resolved*, That, in order to assist the Joint Legislative Committee
6 on Emergency Management in carrying out its duties, the joint
7 committee may form technical advisory committees, including
8 representatives from the public safety and emergency services
9 disciplines, to help evaluate federal, state, and local strategies,
10 provide technical assistance on an ongoing basis, and take active
11 roles in supporting the passage of any necessary legislation; and
12 be it further

13 *Resolved*, That the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency
14 Management may work in cooperation with the Governor and the
15 standing committees and subcommittees of the Legislature to
16 address the level of support necessary for public safety and related
17 safety agencies to implement essential emergency management
18 services and policies; and be it further

19 *Resolved*, That the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency
20 Management may periodically report its progress and make
21 recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature; and be it
22 further

23 *Resolved*, That the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency
24 Management and its members shall have and exercise all of the
25 rights, duties, and powers conferred upon investigating committees
26 and their members by the Joint Rules of the Assembly and Senate
27 as they are adopted and amended from time to time, which
28 provisions are incorporated herein and made applicable to this
29 joint committee and its members; and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Senate Committee on Rules may make
31 moneys available from the Senate Operating Fund, as it deems
32 necessary, to pay expenses of the Joint Legislative Committee on
33 Emergency Management and its members, and that any expenditure
34 of moneys shall be made in compliance with policies set forth by
35 the Senate Committee on Rules and shall be subject to the approval
36 of the Senate Committee on Rules; and be it further

37 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
38 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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