

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 35

**Introduced by Assembly Member Roger Hernández
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Harkey)**

March 8, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 35—Relative to National Surgical Technologist Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 35, as introduced, Roger Hernández. National Surgical Technologist Week.

This measure would recognize and declare the week of September 18 to 24, 2011, inclusive, as National Surgical Technologist Week in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The Association of Surgical Technologists was
2 officially created as a nonprofit educational association in 1969
3 with the support of the Association of periOperative Registered
4 Nurses, the American College of Surgeons, and the American
5 Hospital Association; and

6 WHEREAS, Surgical technologists are responsible for the
7 environmental disinfection, safety, and efficiency of the operating
8 room, and their knowledge and experience with aseptic surgical
9 technique qualifies them for a role of importance in the surgical
10 suite; and

11 WHEREAS, The surgical technology profession has grown to
12 meet the continuing demand for well-educated, highly skilled, and
13 versatile individuals to work with surgeons and other skilled

1 professionals to deliver the highest possible level of patient care;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Surgical technologists are skilled professionals
4 uniquely prepared for, and proud of their role on, surgical teams
5 in hospitals across the country and in California, where an
6 estimated 5,000 surgical technologists, of the nearly 90,000 surgical
7 technologists nationally, are employed; and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately 1,400 California surgical
9 technologists hold certification in their profession from the National
10 Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA)
11 for surgical technologists in the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, Based on scientific evidence, the key role that
13 health care personnel in surgical settings can play by taking specific
14 steps to prevent surgical site infections for some operations has
15 been underscored by both the National Surgical Infection
16 Prevention Project and reported in The Joint Commission's Annual
17 Report on Quality and Safety-2007; and

18 WHEREAS, The Joint Commission's Annual Report on Quality
19 and Safety-2007 reported that surgical site infections were the
20 second most common hospital-acquired infections in the United
21 States; and

22 WHEREAS, It is a primary function of surgical technologists
23 and surgical assistants with proper education, training, and skills
24 to administer patient care of the highest quality; and

25 WHEREAS, San Francisco, California, has been selected as the
26 site for the 42nd Annual National Conference of the Association
27 of Surgical Technologists from May 31 to June 4, 2011, inclusive;
28 now, therefore, be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
30 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes and declares
31 the week of September 18 to 24, 2011, inclusive, as National
32 Surgical Technologist Week in California; and be it further

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

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