

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 14, 2012

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 8, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 27

Introduced by Assembly Member Bonilla

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Ammiano, Hall, Ma, Monning, Perea, ~~and Williams~~ Williams, Achadjian, Alejo, Allen, Beall, Bill Berryhill, Block, Blumenfield, Bradford, Brownley, Buchanan, Butler, Campos, Carter, Cedillo, Chesbro, Conway, Dickinson, Eng, Feuer, Fong, Fuentes, Furutani, Beth Gaines, Galgiani, Garrick, Gatto, Gordon, Gorell, Grove, Hagman, Harkey, Hayashi, Roger Hernández, Hill, Huber, Hueso, Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Lara, Logue, Bonnie Lowenthal, Mansoor, Mendoza, Miller, Mitchell, Morrell, Nestande, Nielsen, Olsen, Pan, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Portantino, Silva, Skinner, Smyth, Solorio, Swanson, Torres, Wagner, Wieckowski, and Yamada)

(Coauthors: Senators Alquist, Evans, Liu, and Runner)

February 14, 2012

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 27—Relative to women in sports.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 27, as amended, Bonilla. Women in sports.

This measure would commemorate the 40th anniversary of Title IX on June 23, 2012, commend the movement toward increased equality and fair treatment of female athletes, and praise the goal of greater opportunities in sports for girls and young women in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, When the California Interscholastic Federation
2 (CIF) was formed in 1914, girls' physical education did not include
3 interscholastic sports teams; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1964, the CIF Federated Council adopted a set
5 of bylaws for girls' interscholastic sports that stated that schools
6 and school districts may organize girls' sports teams; and

7 WHEREAS, By the 1967–68 school year, almost half of
8 California's secondary schools conducted a CIF girls'
9 interscholastic athletic program of some degree; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1972, the United States Congress enacted Title
11 IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and

12 WHEREAS, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
13 (hereafter Title IX) states, in part, as follows: "No person in the
14 United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from
15 participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to
16 discrimination under any education program or activity receiving
17 Federal financial assistance . . ."; and

18 WHEREAS, Prior to the enactment of Title IX, many schools
19 refused to admit girls and women to, or imposed strict limits on
20 their participation in, a wide range of sports; and

21 WHEREAS, Since the enactment of Title IX, the participation
22 and interest of girls and women in sports has soared. Only 300,000
23 girls participated in California high school sports and fewer than
24 32,000 women participated in college sports prior to Title IX;
25 today the number is nearly three million; and

26 WHEREAS, Since the enactment of Title IX, participation of
27 girls and women in sports has increased by 904 percent in high
28 schools and 456 percent in colleges; and

29 WHEREAS, Title IX governs the overall equity of opportunity
30 in athletics, including areas such as equipment and supplies, travel,
31 support services, and scholarships; and

32 WHEREAS, Scholarship opportunities are an important way
33 that educational institutions meet the needs and interests of student
34 athletes; and

35 WHEREAS, In 1995–96, across all National Collegiate Athletic
36 Association divisions, male athletes received 63 percent of the
37 scholarship funding and female athletes received 37 percent of
38 scholarship dollars, or \$142,622,803 less than their male
39 counterparts; and

1 WHEREAS, Today, male athletes receive 55 percent of the
2 scholarship funding and female athletes receive 45 percent of
3 scholarship dollars; and

4 WHEREAS, The amount of recruitment dollars spent on women
5 athletes can be viewed as a measure of institutional commitment
6 to women's sports programs; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1995–96, women's teams received 26.6 percent
8 of the total available funding while men's teams received 72.6
9 percent of that amount; and

10 WHEREAS, Today, women's teams receive 38 percent of the
11 total available funding while men's teams receive 62 percent of
12 that amount; and

13 WHEREAS, Participation in girls' and women's sports has led
14 to tremendous learning opportunities in leadership skills and team
15 building; and

16 WHEREAS, Girls' and women's sports have contributed
17 enormously to developing self-confidence and self-esteem in
18 women; and

19 WHEREAS, Girls and young women who are involved in sports
20 have been found to be less likely to smoke, use drugs, or have
21 babies as teenagers; and

22 WHEREAS, Girls' and women's sports and other fitness
23 programs for women have led millions of women into positive
24 lifelong habits of physical activity, improved fitness, and
25 consequently greatly improved health in our state; and

26 WHEREAS, Title IX has continued to increase opportunities
27 for girls and women in sports but has not achieved the goal of full
28 equality in participation in scholarships, equipment, and other
29 funding; and

30 WHEREAS, In addition to girls' and women's sports, numerous
31 health clubs, specialized programs in women's fitness, and outdoor
32 activities and programs that promote self-sufficiency and
33 self-confidence in women through outdoor adventures are dedicated
34 to promoting lifelong participation of women in sports and fitness;
35 and

36 WHEREAS, These same organizations have sought to create a
37 public awareness that encourages greater female participation and
38 greater support of gender equality and empowerment through
39 sports and outdoor programs; now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
2 *California, jointly,* That high school and college coaches of
3 women’s athletics are to be commended for progress in attaining
4 the goals of Title IX and fulfilling the hopes and dreams of girls
5 and women in sports; and be it further

6 *Resolved,* That the CIF and California high schools and colleges
7 are to be commended for the progress made already and encouraged
8 in further efforts by all to meet the challenge of equality in sports
9 and the greatest fulfillment of the hopes and dreams of girls and
10 women in our schools; and be it further

11 *Resolved,* That programs and projects that emphasize girls’ and
12 women’s confidence building through fitness and physical
13 challenges in sports and outdoor adventure, such as the Women’s
14 Sports Foundation, be commended for their positive impact in
15 carrying forward the fitness message for girls and women; and be
16 it further

17 *Resolved,* That parents, families, businesses, women athletes
18 who serve as positive role models, and all others who have
19 contributed to girls’ and women’s leadership and team player skills
20 through sports and fitness activities are to be commended; and be
21 it further

22 *Resolved,* That the Legislature of the State of California, on
23 June 23, 2012, commemorates the 40th anniversary of Title IX,
24 commends the movement toward increased equality and fair
25 treatment of female athletes, and praises the goals of greater
26 opportunities in sports for girls and young women in California;
27 and be it further

28 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
29 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
30 States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each
31 Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the
32 United States.