

House Resolution

No. 40

Introduced by Assembly Member Bonilla

(~~Coauthor: Assembly Member Bonnie Lowenthal~~)

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August 16, 2012

House Resolution No. 40—Relative to women in sports.

- 1 WHEREAS, California sent 128 of the 530 athletes representing
2 the United States of America to the 30th Olympic Games, the 2012
3 London Olympics; and
4 WHEREAS, Of the total number of medals claimed by the
5 United States of America, Californians brought home more medals
6 than any other state; and
7 WHEREAS, For the first time in United States Olympic history,
8 women outnumbered men, 269 to 261; and
9 WHEREAS, Women comprised the oldest and the youngest
10 athletes in the United States' Olympics delegation. The oldest was

1 a 54-year-old equestrian named Karen O'Connor, and the youngest
2 was a 15-year-old swimmer named Katie Ledecky; and

3 WHEREAS, Nearly three months after the 40th anniversary of
4 Title IX, American women Olympians were more numerous than
5 American men and more decorated than American men on the
6 track, in the ring, on the court, in the pool, in the gymnastics arena,
7 and even on beach sand; and

8 WHEREAS, As American women dominated the United States
9 medal count, commentators dubbed the London Olympic Games
10 the "Title IX Olympics," after the four-decade-old American law
11 that ensured young women would have equal access to athletic
12 training as their male counterparts. Many saw these games as
13 vindication for Title IX, and as proof that such a commitment can
14 deliver measurable results: 58 of the United States' 104 medals
15 were awarded to women, and of the 46 United States' gold medals,
16 women or womens' teams won 29 of them; and

17 WHEREAS, Scott Blackmun, the chief executive officer of the
18 United States Olympic Committee, said, "Title IX really gave the
19 U.S. a head start in having a national commitment to make sure
20 that young women are getting an opportunity to be involved in
21 sport. The rest of the world is clearly doing the same thing, so we
22 are glad we got ahead of the curve"; and

23 WHEREAS, Every country participating in the Olympics was
24 represented by at least one woman for the first time in Olympic
25 history. Qatar, Brunei, and Saudi Arabia, traditionally represented
26 solely by men, included women in their London delegations; and

27 WHEREAS, This advancement is significant not only to the
28 women of those three countries, but to women all over the world;
29 now, therefore be it

30 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the
31 Assembly commemorates the 40th anniversary of Title IX,
32 commends the movement toward increased equality and fair
33 treatment of female athletes, and praises the goals of greater
34 opportunities in sports for girls and young women in California;
35 and be it further

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

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