

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 18, 2014

Senate Resolution

No. 49

Introduced by Senators Leno, Galgiani, and Lara

June 3, 2014

Senate Resolution No. 49—Relative to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month.

1 WHEREAS, Our great state and nation consistently and
2 diligently strive to promote the egalitarian principles of equality
3 and justice where all people have inalienable rights, including life,
4 liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

5 WHEREAS, California’s and America’s diversity is one of our
6 greatest strengths; and

7 WHEREAS, To achieve a just and fair society, we must teach
8 our children to respect one another, to appreciate our differences,
9 and to recognize the common good in all of us; and

10 WHEREAS, Our great state protects its residents from
11 discrimination and harassment based on actual or perceived race,
12 ethnicity, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, physical or
13 mental ability, medical condition, sex, including gender identity
14 or expression, or sexual orientation; and

15 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
16 have made important and lasting contributions to our great state
17 and nation in every field of endeavor, including, but not limited
18 to, business, medicine, law, humanities, science, literature, politics,
19 education, music, philanthropy, sports and athletics, arts, and
20 culture, that enrich our national life; and

21 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
22 come from all walks of life, regardless of race, ethnicity, color,
23 religion, ancestry, national origin, economic status, physical or

1 mental ability, medical condition, sex, or gender identity or
2 expression; and

3 WHEREAS, For the first time in the history of the United States,
4 a sitting President and Vice President, President Barack Obama
5 and Vice President Joe Biden, affirmed their support for the
6 fundamental right to marry, regardless of sexual orientation or
7 gender. Former Vice President Dick Cheney and former First Lady
8 Laura Bush have also affirmed their support for marriage equality;
9 and

10 ~~WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States struck~~
11 ~~down the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8, which barred~~
12 ~~the federal government from recognizing same-sex marriages and~~
13 ~~restored marriage equality to California, respectively; and~~

14 *WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States struck down*
15 *the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), affirming that all*
16 *loving and committed couples who are married deserve equal*
17 *treatment and respect from the federal government; and*

18 *WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States ruled that*
19 *Proposition 8 sponsors had no standing to appeal the federal trial*
20 *court’s decision that Proposition 8 is unconstitutional, thereby*
21 *restoring marriage equality in California; and*

22 WHEREAS, Married same-sex couples now enjoy the same
23 rights and privileges granted to other married couples, including
24 joint tax filings, military benefits, family and medical leave, and
25 the ability to sponsor their foreign spouse; and

26 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense repealed “Don’t Ask,
27 Don’t Tell,” allowing servicemen and women to serve their country
28 openly and proudly; and

29 WHEREAS, More lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
30 are being elected to public offices across the country, playing in
31 professional sports leagues, occupying the highest positions in
32 business, and serving as role models for all; and

33 WHEREAS, While our great state and nation have progressed
34 in our journey toward dignity, understanding, and mutual respect
35 for all, we still have a long way to go in eradicating the prejudice
36 and discrimination that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender
37 people and their families encounter, and to this end, we continue
38 working for the passage of the inclusive federal Employment
39 Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), comprehensive immigration

1 reform, and increased awareness of the difficulties facing the
2 transgender community; and

3 WHEREAS, To build a stronger and better state and nation, we
4 must continue to help advance the cause of equality for all people;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Friends and allies of the LGBT community have
7 shown considerable support and commitment to the struggles of
8 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people at home and abroad;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Each year, June marks the anniversary of the
11 Stonewall Rebellion that gave birth to the modern lesbian, gay,
12 bisexual, and transgender civil rights movement; and

13 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has proclaimed June as
14 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month and
15 reaffirmed his administration's goal of eliminating prejudice
16 everywhere it exists and celebrating the great diversity of the
17 American people; and

18 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans,
19 their families and friends, and all those committed to justice and
20 equality celebrate, during the month of June, the rich culture, the
21 notable achievements, and the outstanding services that lesbian,
22 gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans make to our great state
23 and nation; now, therefore, be it

24 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the Senate
25 proclaims June 2014 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender
26 (LGBT) Pride Month, urges all residents to join in celebrating the
27 culture, accomplishments, and contributions of lesbian, gay,
28 bisexual, and transgender people, and encourages the people of
29 California to work to help advance the cause of equality for lesbian,
30 gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their families; and be it
31 further

32 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
33 this resolution to the Members of the Legislature and to the author
34 for appropriate distribution.

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