

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 7, 2014

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 24, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 94

Introduced by Senator Evans

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Chesbro)

(Coauthors: Senators *Berryhill*, *Cannella*, *Corbett*, *Padilla*, and *Wolk*)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Eggman, Williams, and Yamada)

March 6, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 94—Relative to wineries.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 94, as amended, Evans. “California Wines: Down to Earth” month.

This measure would proclaim April 2014 as the “California Wines: Down to Earth” month, to celebrate the sustainable leadership of California wineries and winegrape growers.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Sustainability is a vital part of the long-term future
- 2 of California wine, which contributes an estimated \$61.5 billion
- 3 in annual economic impact to California’s economy; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The Wine Institute and the California Association
- 5 of Winegrape Growers created the California Code of Sustainable
- 6 Winegrowing ~~workbook~~ *Workbook* more than a decade ago, with
- 7 the third edition released in January 2013, and it has since been
- 8 used by vineyards and wineries representing three quarters of

1 California's winegrape acreage and production to self-assess
2 operations; and

3 WHEREAS, The ~~California Code of Sustainable Winegrowing~~
4 Program, now managed by the California Sustainable Winegrowing
5 Alliance, is comprised of more than 200 best practices for
6 vineyards and wineries that benefit the environment, employees,
7 neighbors, and high-quality wine; and

8 WHEREAS, Other state and regional sustainability programs,
9 such as Lodi Rules, Sustainability in Practice (SIP), Napa Green,
10 Fish Friendly Farming, the *California* Green Business Program,
11 and others, all play an important role in the California wine
12 communities' efforts to grow grapes and produce wine in a manner
13 that is environmentally sound, economically feasible, and socially
14 equitable; and

15 WHEREAS, Growing participation in sustainable organic, and
16 biodynamic, certification programs further conveys California
17 vintners' and growers' adherence to high standards, desire for
18 transparency, and dedication to continuous improvement; and

19 WHEREAS, California's wine community conserves water,
20 energy, and other natural resources, protects habitat, employee
21 welfare, and air, water, and soil quality, and promotes the use of
22 natural pest management and alternative energy and fuels; and

23 WHEREAS, California's 3,800 wineries and 4,600 winegrape
24 growers are primarily family businesses, with a long-term
25 commitment to the health and vitality of their communities, and
26 to preserving the land for future generations; and

27 WHEREAS, California's winegrape growers and vintners
28 commitment to sustainability has been documented in a newly
29 published book, *Down to Earth, A Seasonable Tour of Sustainable*
30 *Winegrowing in California*; now, therefore, be it

31 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
32 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims April 2014 as
33 the time to celebrate the sustainable leadership of California
34 wineries and winegrape growers with the theme, "California Wines:
35 Down to Earth" month, timed to Earth Day on April 22nd; 22; and
36 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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