

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 5, 2008

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 87

Introduced by Senator Migden
(Coauthors: Senators Corbett and Simitian)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Hayashi and Huffman)

February 27, 2008

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 87—Relative to the light brown apple moth.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 87, as amended, Migden. Light brown apple moth.

This measure would request the Department of Food and Agriculture to impose a moratorium on any aerial spraying that may be a part of the department's eradication campaign of the light brown apple moth until the department can demonstrate that the pheromone compound it intends to use is both safe to humans and effective at eradicating the light brown apple moth.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The presence of the light brown apple moth
- 2 (LBAM), which is originally from Australia, has been confirmed
- 3 in 12 counties, which include Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles,
- 4 Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San
- 5 Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Solano, since its discovery
- 6 in California by the Department of Food and Agriculture and the
- 7 United States Department of Agriculture in March 2007; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The introduction of the LBAM represents a danger
- 9 to California's natural environment and agricultural industry; and

1 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Agriculture is
2 testing the efficacy of the aerial spraying of pheromones, a
3 substance that disrupts the mating of the LBAM, conducted in
4 New Zealand to eradicate the LBAM, but these tests have not been
5 completed and the efficacy results of the tests are not known; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 16,000 LBAMs were found in the bay
7 area and most of these moths were found in the epicenter, which
8 is Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the Department of Food and
10 Agriculture, aerial spraying for the LBAM is needed in 10 bay
11 area counties and the department is developing a new formula to
12 use to eradicate the LBAM, which was not the one used in the
13 Monterey and Santa Cruz areas in 2007, but the department has
14 not disclosed all of the ingredients; and

15 WHEREAS, Over 600 health complaints were tallied after aerial
16 spraying for the LBAM in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties last
17 year, raising serious questions about the safety of the spray to
18 humans. During ~~the aerial spraying,~~ *the aerial spraying,* planes
19 doused cities, suburbs, and rural areas with a pheromone called
20 CheckMate, which regulators initially said ~~carried~~ *contained* a
21 harmful ingredient, and then said it did not. Moreover, the health
22 effects in the bay area cannot be predicted because the population
23 includes sensitive groups, including children, the elderly, pregnant
24 women, and people with chronic disease; now, therefore, be it

25 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
26 *thereof concurring,* That the Department of Food and Agriculture
27 is requested to impose a moratorium on any aerial spraying that
28 may be a part of the department's eradication campaign of the light
29 brown apple moth until the department can demonstrate that the
30 pheromone compound it intends to use is both safe to humans and
31 effective at eradicating the light brown apple moth; and be it further

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