

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 14

Introduced by Assembly Member Morrell

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Bill Berryhill, Conway, Donnelly, Garrick, Gorell, Grove, Hagman, Harkey, Jones, Knight, Logue, Mansoor, Miller, Nielsen, Norby, Olsen, Smyth, Valadao, and Wagner)

(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Emmerson, Gaines, Huff, La Malfa, and Walters)

February 1, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 14—Relative to the United States Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 14, as introduced, Morrell. Session procedures: United States Constitution and Declaration of Independence.

This measure would state the intent of both houses of the Legislature to begin each of their respective floor sessions, following the opening prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag, with a recitation of an excerpt from the United States Constitution, and to begin their respective floor sessions held nearest in time to the 4th of July of each year with a recitation of the full text of the Declaration of Independence.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The United States Constitution and the Declaration
- 2 of Independence are the founding documents of our country; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Those two documents, taken together, contain the
- 4 core principles upon which the government of the United States
- 5 and the governments of the individual States are based; and

1 WHEREAS, Our republic cannot function and will not endure
2 unless our elected leaders uphold their oath of office to defend the
3 principles of limited government contained in our founding
4 documents; and

5 WHEREAS, It is proper and necessary for elected officials to
6 frequently refer to the substance of those documents in order to
7 be reminded of the fundamental principles that shape the governing
8 apparatus of our country; and

9 WHEREAS, Regular recitations of the contents of the United
10 States Constitution and the Declaration of Independence serve as
11 an important reminder to elected representatives of their proper
12 roles and functions and of the scope and limits of the powers
13 granted to them by the people; now, therefore, be it

14 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
15 *thereof concurring*, That it is the intention of both houses of the
16 Legislature to begin each of their respective floor sessions,
17 following the opening prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the
18 flag, with a recitation of an excerpt from the United States
19 Constitution; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That it is the intention of both houses of the
21 Legislature to begin their respective floor sessions held nearest in
22 time to the 4th of July of each year, following the opening prayer
23 and the pledge of allegiance to the flag, with a recitation of the
24 full text of the Declaration of Independence.