

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 48

Introduced by Assembly Member Allen

April 18, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 48—Relative to Start a Small Business Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 48, as introduced, Allen. Start a Small Business Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of May 2013 as Start a Small Business Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, On May 1, 2012, Governor Brown issued a
2 proclamation reaffirming the state's commitment to helping
3 California's small businesses thrive; and
4 WHEREAS, California is home to the most innovative and
5 competitive firms in the world, placing the state consistently among
6 the top-10 economies; and
7 WHEREAS, The vast majority of these businesses employ 500
8 or fewer workers; and
9 WHEREAS, Small businesses embody the entrepreneurial spirit
10 that has driven the economy of our state where over half of our
11 private-sector workforce is employed by small businesses; and
12 WHEREAS, Three and one-half million California small
13 businesses account for 99 percent of the state's employers and
14 employ 52 percent of the workforce; and

1 WHEREAS, California received 50 percent of all venture capital
2 financing in the United States in 2011, by far the most of any state
3 in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, California is the number one state for agriculture
5 revenues, with \$34.8 billion in revenue representing 12.3 percent
6 of the United States total; and

7 WHEREAS, California's 2,324 biomedical companies employ
8 267,000 people, which accounts for \$115 billion in annual
9 revenues, more than the annual Gross State Product of 18 other
10 states; and

11 WHEREAS, Manufacturers in California account for 11.7
12 percent of the total output in the state, employing almost 9 percent
13 of the workforce, where total output from manufacturing was
14 \$229.9 billion in 2011, significantly more than any other state; and

15 WHEREAS, California has more Fortune 500 companies than
16 any other state, 53 in total; and

17 WHEREAS, California policymakers should keep a simple
18 focus on the number one issue facing the state: economic recovery
19 and job creation; and

20 WHEREAS, The simple threat of litigation, rather than the actual
21 adjudication of a lawsuit, under the California Environmental
22 Quality Act, can be all that is required to create uncertainty for
23 various projects; and

24 WHEREAS, Policymakers need to take approaches that
25 recognize and encourage California's leadership and innovation
26 in the environmental arena rather than to rely on more taxes and
27 fees; and

28 WHEREAS, Policymakers need to be smarter about how money
29 is spent on education in order to better align the workforce and
30 college readiness, ensure career technical education is high quality
31 and aligned with academic standards, and promote state and private
32 investments in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
33 education; and

34 WHEREAS, It is critical that California's electricity generation
35 keeps pace with its growing population and increasing demand as
36 maintaining and expanding the state's energy infrastructure is vital
37 to the economic growth of California; and

38 WHEREAS, California ranked 47th for the fairness of its
39 litigation environment in 2012 and has consistently placed among

1 the bottom six states over the last decade, which is a significant
2 consideration when a company decides where to locate; and

3 WHEREAS, California businesses are already strapped with
4 the highest tax rates in the nation; and

5 WHEREAS, California, like 19 other states, is struggling with
6 the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund insolvency, and the best
7 way for California to combat rising unemployment and improve
8 the health of the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund is to improve
9 the business climate; and

10 WHEREAS, In September 2012, the Governor signed a workers'
11 compensation reform package negotiated by employers and labor;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Workers' compensation costs for California
14 employers must decrease to be more competitive with the costs
15 paid by employers in other states; and

16 WHEREAS, The Governor, in his proclamation last year,
17 reaffirmed our commitment to California's small businesses to
18 thrive and prosper and that supporting small-scale private-sector
19 job creators is among our most promising strategies to enhance
20 California's human capital, expand job opportunities, and increase
21 our competitive advantage in the global marketplace; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
24 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims the month of
25 May 2013 as Start a Small Business Month; and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That the Legislature adds its support to the Governor's
27 efforts in promoting small businesses and making California a
28 more friendly business climate; and be it further

29 *Resolved*, That California's policymakers can act to relieve the
30 uncertainty of doing business in this state, by keeping taxes low,
31 fair, stable, and predictable, by reducing the regulatory and
32 litigation costs of operating a business, by reducing the cost and
33 improving the certainty and stability of investing in new equipment
34 and technology, by investing in public and private works that
35 provide the backbone for economic growth, and by ensuring the
36 availability of high quality skilled employees; and be it further

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

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