

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 52

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 52

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 52—Relative to state beaches.

[Filed with Secretary of State June 20, 2013.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 52, Allen. State beaches: fire rings.

This measure would recognize the tradition and cultural significance of fire rings on state beaches as part of California's recreational and community activity, and beach lifestyle. This measure would support the protection of California's beaches, access to those beaches, and important traditions that are integral to the state's culture and beach lifestyle, such as fire rings.

WHEREAS, It is well known that visitors, tourists, and residents are drawn to the California coast for personal and family recreation, surfing and water sports, iconic piers, and unforgettable sunsets; and

WHEREAS, An important beach attraction is the time-honored tradition of a beach bonfire in a fire ring that California residents and visitors enjoy as the sun goes down over a perfect California beach evening; and

WHEREAS, Beach bonfires are a safe and inexpensive recreational activity and are enjoyed by all the members of our community, regardless of socioeconomic class; and

WHEREAS, Beach attractions result in optimum economic and community activity, from gatherings of family and friends, beach barbecues, community events, and beach sports, and much more; and

WHEREAS, Fire rings are usually large cement rings in the sand to build your very own bonfire, though in places such as Oceano Dunes Vehicle Recreation Area and its beach where cars can drive right on the beach in Grover Beach, you can pull your car onto the sand and simply set the wood out on the beach and light it, or dig your own fire ring; and

WHEREAS, Many state beaches offer fire rings to campsite guests as part of their camping fee, while some provide them for free; and

WHEREAS, Of 108 state parks, 29 allow fire rings for beach vacationers and visitors (excluding camping); and

WHEREAS, In Orange County, there are more than 600 fire rings available on the city and state beaches for nightly bonfires, a favorite activity among locals, visitors, and international tourists; and

WHEREAS, The Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors maintains fire rings at Dockweiler Beach in Playa del Rey; and

WHEREAS, The California Coastal Commission Staff Report of October 22, 2012, at page 10 stated, "Beach fire rings are a unique recreational facility for which there is no substitution."; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature supports the protection of California's beaches, access to those beaches, and important traditions that are integral to our culture and beach lifestyle, such as fire rings; and be it further

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