

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 23

Introduced by Assembly Member Bonilla
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Atkins and Cristina Garcia)
(Coauthor: Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson)

June 16, 2015

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 23—Relative to Title IX.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 23, as introduced, Bonilla. Title IX: 43rd anniversary.

This measure would, on June 23, 2015, commemorate the 43rd anniversary of the enactment of Title IX, and would urge Californians to continue to work together to achieve the goals set by Title IX, as specified.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is
2 a federal law that specifically states that no person in the United
3 States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in,
4 be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under
5 any education program or activity receiving federal financial
6 assistance; and
7 WHEREAS, All public and private elementary schools and
8 secondary schools, school districts, colleges, and universities
9 receiving any federal funding must comply with Title IX; and
10 WHEREAS, Title IX requires equal access in recruitment,
11 admissions, counseling, financial assistance, discipline,
12 employment, and athletics; protection from sex-based harassment;
13 and equitable treatment of pregnant and parenting students; and

1 WHEREAS, Prior to the enactment of Title IX, many women
2 and girls faced discrimination and limited opportunities in athletics,
3 academics, and extracurricular activities; and

4 WHEREAS, Discrimination on the basis of sex can include
5 sexual harassment or sexual violence, including rape, sexual
6 assault, sexual battery, and sexual coercion; and

7 WHEREAS, Title IX has been used as a basis in a number of
8 complaints alleging sexual violence on college campuses, as sexual
9 violence interferes with a student's right to receive education free
10 from discrimination; and

11 WHEREAS, Of the 109 colleges and universities under
12 investigation by the United States Department of Education for
13 their handling of sexual violence cases, 11 are located in California;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Title IX, which governs educational equity
16 generally, is widely known for ensuring equal access to women
17 and girl athletes; and

18 WHEREAS, The members of the United States Women's
19 National Soccer Team, which is ranked #2 in the world and
20 continues to make our nation proud, all played collegiate level
21 soccer; and

22 WHEREAS, Title IX regulations require that pregnant and
23 parenting students have equal access to schools and activities, and
24 that all separate programs for pregnant or parenting students be
25 completely voluntary; and

26 WHEREAS, Title IX has been the basis for California laws that
27 protect graduate students from discrimination on the basis of
28 pregnancy in research projects in California universities, laws
29 requiring affirmative consent, and current legislation requiring
30 lactation accommodations in California schools; and

31 WHEREAS, The educational equity guaranteed in Title IX does
32 not solely apply to women. It protects everyone from sex-based
33 discrimination, regardless of real or perceived sex, gender identity,
34 or gender expression; and

35 WHEREAS, Although Title IX has increased opportunities for
36 girls and women in academics, sports, and other educational
37 activities, it has not yet achieved the goal of full equality; now,
38 therefore, be it

39 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
40 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature urges Californians to

1 continue to work together to achieve the goals set by Title IX of
2 increased opportunities for girls and women in academics, sports,
3 and other educational activities; and be it further

4 *Resolved*, That the Legislature of the State of California, on
5 June 23, 2015, commemorates the 43rd anniversary of Title IX,
6 and commends the national movement toward increased equality
7 and fair treatment of all students; and be it further

8 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
9 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
10 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each
11 Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the
12 United States.