

House Resolution

No. 15

Introduced by Assembly Member Eggman

April 6, 2015

House Resolution No. 15—Relative to California Thursday.

1 WHEREAS, April 23, 2015, is the statewide rollout of
2 “California Thursdays”; and

3 WHEREAS, “California Thursdays” is a collaboration between
4 the Center for Ecoliteracy, participating school districts, and allied
5 organizations to serve healthy, freshly prepared school meals made
6 from California-grown food; and

7 WHEREAS, Forty-two innovative school districts that
8 collectively serve over 250 million meals a year, including large
9 and small rural, urban, and suburban school districts across
10 California, have joined the “California Thursdays” network; and

11 WHEREAS, California agriculture leads the nation, its 80,500
12 farms and ranches received \$42.6 billion for their output in 2013,
13 and its agricultural abundance comprises more than 400
14 commodities, including nearly one-half of United States-grown
15 fruits, nuts, and vegetables; and

16 WHEREAS, “California Thursdays” will increase the
17 procurement of California-grown food, and every dollar spent in
18 the agriculture sector adds \$2.56 to the state’s economy, according
19 to a study from California State University, Fresno; and

20 WHEREAS, Children in California face chronic diet-related
21 public health challenges, including food insecurity and childhood
22 obesity, and the California Endowment states that improvements
23 to the school food environment “are resulting in healthier behaviors
24 among students”; and

1 WHEREAS, Growing evidence demonstrates an association
2 between nutrition and academic performance, and California
3 children will benefit from understanding where their food comes
4 from and how it reaches the table; and

5 WHEREAS, Understanding where food comes from and how
6 it gets to the table encourages ecological knowledge and aligns
7 with state and national education standards; and

8 WHEREAS, Research and local success stories indicate that
9 improving food quality increases meal program participation and
10 revenue; and

11 WHEREAS, “California Thursdays” is a bite-sized
12 implementation program to improve school food systems in order
13 to improve student health and academic achievement, local and
14 state economies, and the environment, creating a “triple win”; and

15 WHEREAS, “California Thursdays” has received grants from
16 the Department of Food and Agriculture, the United States
17 Department of Agriculture Farm to School Program, and the
18 California Endowment, along with major ongoing support from
19 TomKat Charitable Trust; now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the
21 Assembly proclaims April 23, 2015, as “California Thursday” in
22 the State of California; commends the Center for Ecoliteracy and
23 participating school districts for advancing student health and
24 academic achievement, investing in California agriculture and
25 California’s economy, and benefiting the state’s environment; and
26 urges all California schools to participate in “California
27 Thursdays”; and be it further

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