

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 16, 1998

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 61

**Introduced by Assembly Members Ducheny, Knox, and
Villaraigosa**

April 2, 1998

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 61—Relative to the federal naturalization process.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 61, as amended, Ducheny. Federal naturalization process.

This measure would memorialize the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the President, and the Congress of the United States to ensure that available resources are directed and any additional funds as needed are appropriated to eliminate, within ~~6~~ 10 months, the current backlog in naturalization applications; ~~and also~~ to ensure that, without harm to the integrity of the naturalization process, all future applications will receive a determination within 6 months of their date of application; *and to refrain from the consideration of any increase in naturalization fees until the present backlog is eliminated and resources are committed to ensure that future applications will be processed within 6 months of their date of application.*

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The attainment of United States
2 citizenship is recognized by many legal immigrants as a
3 key to full participation in civic life; and

4 WHEREAS, There presently exists a backlog of 700,000
5 naturalization applications in California awaiting
6 processing—some for as long as two years; now, therefore,
7 be it

8 *Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of*
9 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature of the State of
10 California encourages the Commissioner of the
11 Immigration and Naturalization Service, the President,
12 and the Congress of the United States to ensure that
13 available resources are directed, and any additional funds
14 as needed are appropriated, in order to eliminate, within
15 ~~six~~ 10 months, the current backlog in naturalization
16 applications; and be it further

17 *Resolved,* That the Legislature of the State of California
18 respectfully memorializes the Commissioner of the
19 Immigration and Naturalization Service, the President,
20 and the Congress of the United States to ensure that,
21 without harm to the integrity of the naturalization
22 process, all future applicants for naturalization will
23 receive a determination within six months of their date
24 of application; and be it further

25 **RESOLVED,** *That the Legislature of the State of*
26 *California respectfully memorializes the Commissioner*
27 *of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the*
28 *President, and the Congress of the United States to*
29 *refrain from the consideration of any increase in*
30 *naturalization fees until such time as the present backlog*
31 *is eliminated and resources are committed to ensure that*
32 *future applications will be processed within six months of*
33 *their date of application; and be it further*

34 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
35 transmit copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of
36 the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the
37 President and the Vice President of the United States, to
38 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each



1 Senator and Representative from California in the
2 Congress of the United States.

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