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SCR-157 June Dairy Month. (2015-2016)

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 157

CHAPTER 103

Relative to June Dairy Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State August 16, 2016.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 157, Cannella. June Dairy Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of June 2016 to be Dairy Month in California and would encourage Californians to continue to support the American dairy industry by including dairy products as part of a healthy diet.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, The annual tradition of National June Dairy Month, originally known as National Milk Month, began in 1937 and is an opportunity for Americans to honor dairy farmers, acknowledge dairy farmers' contributions to the economy, and recognize the importance of dairy products to a healthy diet for many Americans; and

WHEREAS, California is America's number one milk-producing state, the number two cheese-producing state, and dairy is the state's number one agricultural commodity; and

WHEREAS, Ninety-nine percent of California dairy farms are family owned, and dairy farming in California has a 200-year heritage; and

WHEREAS, One hundred eighty-nine thousand jobs depend on California's dairy industry, including 55,000 milk production and processing jobs; and

WHEREAS, The landscape, economy, health, and nutrition of California would not be the same without our dairy farms and the approximately 1,450 families who run them; and

WHEREAS, Twenty-five percent of Americans do not meet their recommended intake of calcium; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Surgeon General predicts that by 2020, one-half of all Americans older than 50 years of age will be at risk for fractures as a result of osteoporosis and low bone density, and one in five people with a hip fracture dies within a year of their injury; and

WHEREAS, The United States Surgeon General's 2015 report on bone health and osteoporosis reveals that people can improve bone health and prevent fractures by boosting calcium and vitamin D intake; and

WHEREAS, Dairy foods provide essential nutrients, including calcium, potassium, magnesium, and vitamin A, and milk is the number one source of calcium, potassium, phosphorus, and vitamin D in the American diet; and

WHEREAS, Obesity has more than doubled in children and quadrupled in adolescents in the past 30 years, and more than one-third of adults are considered to be obese; and

WHEREAS, Consumption of dairy foods plays a beneficial role in maintaining a healthy weight, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, Dairy farming is a leading agricultural commodity in California, producing \$7.6 billion in annual retail sales in 2014; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby proclaims the month of June 2016 to be Dairy Month in California in honor of the work of dairy producers in California and encourages all Californians to continue to support the American dairy industry by including dairy products as part of a healthy diet; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.