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ACR-170 California Ports Day. (2017-2018)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 170

CHAPTER 22

Relative to California Ports Day.

[Filed with Secretary of State March 09, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 170, O'Donnell. California Ports Day.

This measure would designate February 21, 2018, and the 3rd Wednesday in February of each year thereafter, as California Ports Day.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, California is home to the most productive system of ports in the nation, including three of America's largest container ports and a diverse system of specialty ports; and

WHEREAS, International trade is a critical component of our state and national economies and California ports play a vital role in serving our trade needs; and

WHEREAS, California is blessed with major port facilities situated along the coast from Humboldt Bay to San Diego Bay, and along inland waterways in West Sacramento and Stockton; and

WHEREAS, California is the largest gateway for international trade and domestic commerce in the nation, with more than 40 percent of the total containerized cargo entering the United States arriving at California ports and almost 30 percent of the nation's exports flowing through ports in the Golden State; and

WHEREAS, California ports are critical gateways to the state's freight transportation system, which is responsible for one-third of the state's economy and jobs, with freight-dependent industries accounting for over \$700 billion in revenue and more than 5 million jobs; and

WHEREAS, Port activities employ more than 500,000 people in California and generate an estimated \$9 billion in state and local tax revenue annually; and

WHEREAS, California ports also provide important noncargo-related services and facilities such as ferry operations, passenger cruise line services, restaurant and hotel accommodations, special events, tourist attractions, recreational harbors and marinas, commercial fishing facilities, and parks and open space; and

WHEREAS, California ports are on the cutting edge of environmental stewardship, leading the nation, and indeed the world, in developing environmentally friendly port operations; and

WHEREAS, California ports are reducing air emissions from port-related operations, improving water quality, protecting marine wildlife, and implementing environmentally sustainable practices; and

WHEREAS, California ports are making significant and lasting emissions reductions by encouraging cleaner burning fuels in vessels, replacing conventional diesel with low emission trucks, using energy efficient utilities and alternative fuels, investing in solar and other renewable energy sources, and electrifying cargo handling equipment; and

WHEREAS, California ports have achieved remarkable air quality improvements over the last decade, with emissions reductions on the order of 80 percent in particulate matter, 90 percent in sulfur dioxide, and 50 percent in nitrogen dioxide; and

WHEREAS, California's public ports manage state tidelands and other public lands for the benefit of all Californians, serving as environmental stewards of important resources and economic engines for the state and for the nation; and

WHEREAS, It is critical to work together to ensure that California ports are able to maintain their competitiveness in the global marketplace and continue to grow their share of the goods movement industry to benefit all Californians and Americans; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates February 21, 2018, and the third Wednesday in February of each year thereafter, as California Ports Day; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature encourages all Californians to learn about our public ports and to observe the day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and educational activities; and be it further

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