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ACR-182 Women in Construction Week. (2017-2018)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 182

CHAPTER 43

Relative to Women in Construction Week.

[Filed with Secretary of State April 24, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 182, Baker. Women in Construction Week.

This measure would proclaim the week of March 4, 2018, through March 10, 2018, inclusive, as Women in Construction Week.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, In 1987, Congress declared March as national Women's History Month in perpetuity and this year industry has designated the first week of March to celebrate women in construction; and

WHEREAS, The focus of Women in Construction Week is to highlight women as a visible component of the construction industry; and

WHEREAS, The continuous progress of our economy requires full participation and support of all citizens, regardless of gender, race, or ethnic background; and

WHEREAS, The workforce in California is becoming increasingly diversified and for this state's construction industry to remain competitive in the global economy, it must also diversify its workforce by attracting significantly more women into the industry; and

WHEREAS, Women currently occupy only 10% of all apprenticeships and less than 3% of construction trade jobs nationally. As a state we should support policy efforts to achieve at least 20% by 2020; and

WHEREAS, The construction industry in California has tremendous need for skilled and motivated workers, managers, and entrepreneurs from all segments of the population; and

WHEREAS, The construction industry must strive to educate and inspire parents, educators, and career counselors to encourage California's youth to enter into rewarding career opportunities in construction; and

WHEREAS, Rising costs of higher education and evolving employer workforce training needs make apprenticeship an increasingly important career pathway without the burden of student loans; and

WHEREAS, Women have historically been excluded from apprenticeship opportunities that lead to meaningful careers with family-supporting wages; and

WHEREAS, Apprenticeship is a critical pathway for women to participate fully and equally in California's growing economy; and

WHEREAS, The development of women-owned business enterprises will benefit all members of the workforce through the creation of meaningful and productive jobs; and

WHEREAS, Women entrepreneurs and small business owners operating in the construction industry could benefit greatly from the experiences, technical services, and support established by more women in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, Women represent an untapped resource, and activities to improve women's recruitment and retention in skilled construction jobs is critically important in helping to close the workforce skills gap, build the middle class, and help meet the needs of the 21st century; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature proclaims March 4, 2018, through March 10, 2018, inclusive, as Women in Construction Week and requests that the Governor issue a proclamation calling on the people of the great State of California to observe the week with appropriate programs 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.