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ACR-135 Energy Efficiency Day. (2019-2020)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 135

CHAPTER 181

Relative to Energy Efficiency Day.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 26, 2019.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 135, Calderon. Energy Efficiency Day.

This measure would proclaim October 2, 2019, as Energy Efficiency Day in California and would urge Californians to join in supporting California's climate and clean energy goals by continuing to support and increase energy efficiency efforts in the state now and in the future.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, The State of California has long been a leader in increasing energy efficiency, which is the cheapest, quickest, and cleanest way to meet the state's energy needs and climate goals while reducing utility bills for residential, business, and industrial customers; and

WHEREAS, California adopted the nation's very first electricity-usage efficiency standards in the 1970s and, since then, has cut its fossil fuel use relative to economic activity 18 percent faster than the rest of the country, as a result of sustained commitment to energy efficiency and clean energy policies and programs; and

WHEREAS, For decades, California energy agencies and utilities have been providing ways for all Californians to cut their energy costs and to benefit from investments in energy efficiency, thereby avoiding the need to build more than 60 large powerplants to serve customers and saving far greater than \$12,000,000,000 on their utility bills over the past two decades; and

WHEREAS, California's dedication to research, development, and deployment has led to substantial growth in smart technologies to cut energy waste, which has yielded more than \$350 in benefits for every \$1 invested in research while spurring market innovation; and

WHEREAS, While California has been adopting energy efficiency standards and policies to drive down greenhouse gas emissions, its population and economy have grown at faster rates over the past 40 years than have the population and economy of the country as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Smarter energy use reduces the amount of electricity California—the world's fifth-largest economy—needs to power our lives, which helps avoid powerplant emissions that can harm our health, pollute our air, and warm our climate; and

WHEREAS, Targeted assistance to low-income single and multifamily households offers vital bill savings that can be redirected to improving the health, comfort, and security of vulnerable communities; and

WHEREAS, Cutting energy waste through appliance and building energy efficiency over the past 40 years has saved California consumers well over \$100,000,000,000 on their utility bills; and

WHEREAS, Implementing energy efficiency and other clean energy policies and programs helps boost economic opportunities and job creation while continuing to move toward a sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, More than 300,000 Californians work in the energy efficiency sector in local, good-paying, clean energy jobs that cannot be outsourced, and increasing efficiency efforts will create more of those jobs; and

WHEREAS, California residents can continue to contribute to the state's energy efficiency efforts by learning about and participating in smarter energy use at home and at work; and

WHEREAS, A nationwide network of energy efficiency groups and partners has designated the first Wednesday in October as the annual national Energy Efficiency Day; and

WHEREAS, Together, the residents of California can continue to contribute to our sustainability efforts by learning more about energy efficiency and practicing smarter energy use in their daily lives; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby proclaims October 2, 2019, as Energy Efficiency Day in California and urges Californians to join in supporting our climate and clean energy goals by continuing to support and increase energy efficiency efforts in our state now and in the future; and be it further

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