

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24—ASSEMBLYMEN
DENIS, KIHUEN; AIZLEY, ANDERSON, ARBERRY,
ATKINSON, BOBZIEN, BUCKLEY, CARPENTER,
CHRISTENSEN, CLABORN, COBB, CONKLIN, DONDERO
LOOP, GANSERT, GOEDHART, GOICOECHEA, GRADY,
GUSTAVSON, HAMBRICK, HARDY, HOGAN, HORNE,
KIRKPATRICK, KOIVISTO, LESLIE, MANENDO,
MASTROLUCA, MCARTHUR, MCCLAIN, MORTENSON,
MUNFORD, OCEGUERA, OHRENSCHALL, PARNELL, PIERCE,
SEGERBLOM, SETTELMAYER, SMITH, SPIEGEL, STEWART
AND WOODBURY

MARCH 31, 2009

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RHODS, SCHNEIDER, TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON, WIENER
AND WOODHOUSE

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Encourages the celebration of America’s immigrant
roots. (BDR R-556)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets **[omitted material]** is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Encouraging the
celebration of America’s immigrant roots.

- 1 WHEREAS, Walt Whitman wrote of America, “Here is not
- 2 merely a nation but a teeming nation of nations,” and if we could be
- 3 transported back to any street in America in the 19th century, we
- 4 would be surrounded by the sounds of the many languages being
- 5 spoken by the masses of people coming to this country looking for a
- 6 better life; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Many immigrants came to America to escape
- 8 famine, war, religious oppression and political turmoil in their



1 native lands, as well as to seek economic opportunity and the
2 freedoms that the world equates with our country; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1870, Nevada had more foreign-born residents per
4 capita than any other state, mainly Irish, Chinese, English,
5 Canadians, Germans and Italians, with many hoping to make their
6 fortunes in the mining boom and return home with their riches; and

7 WHEREAS, Whether they were working as farmers, ranchers,
8 cowboys, shepherders, miners, railroad workers or any number of
9 other jobs, the immigrants to Nevada seemed to abide by the
10 German proverb "If I rest, I rust," setting a work ethic that prevails
11 today; and

12 WHEREAS, No one embodied the successful immigrant more
13 than Irishman John Mackay who started out as a miner and, through
14 hard work and sound investments, became one of the world's richest
15 and most respected men, memorialized by a statue of him as a miner
16 holding a pick axe with his sleeves rolled up, which stands in front
17 of the Mackay School of Mines building on the University of
18 Nevada, Reno, campus; and

19 WHEREAS, While women immigrated in fewer numbers, those
20 that braved the journey made their own contributions by bringing
21 the arts, education, health care and religion, while others ventured
22 into business, mining and ranching and became entrepreneurs in the
23 land of opportunity; and

24 WHEREAS, Some notable immigrants are German-born Albert
25 Einstein who won the Nobel Prize in Physics and spent his life
26 working for peace, Spanish-born Severo Ochoa who is best known
27 for being the first to synthesize RNA outside the cell for which he
28 won the 1959 Nobel Prize in Medicine, Czechoslovakian-born
29 Madeleine Albright who became the first female Secretary of State,
30 Russian-born Irving Berlin who wrote some of America's most
31 beloved songs, Taiwanese-born Dr. David Ho who is a leading
32 researcher in the field of AIDS, Mexican-born Mario Molina who
33 was the most prominent precursor to discovering the Antarctic
34 ozone hole and a Nobel Prize winner in Chemistry for his role in
35 clarifying the threat of chlorofluorocarbon gases to the Earth's
36 ozone layer, and Italian-born Saint Frances X. Cabrini, the first
37 American saint, who founded 67 schools, hospitals and orphanages,
38 one for each year of her life, as well as world-famous athletes,
39 artists, politicians and businessmen; and

40 WHEREAS, More than 65,000 immigrants, 11,000 of them
41 women, are presently serving on active duty in the Armed Forces of
42 the United States, and historically immigrants have served in great
43 numbers to show their dedication to and love for their adopted
44 country; and



* A C R 2 4 *

1 WHEREAS, Hispanics are now the largest minority in the United
2 States, two-thirds of whom are immigrants or the children of
3 immigrants, and are recognized as having a positive impact on the
4 social, cultural and economic development of America; and

5 WHEREAS, Cultural diversity brings richness to our lives and is
6 one of America's strengths, whether it is the cuisine, the colorful
7 fashions, the arts or the many celebrations such as St. Patrick's Day,
8 Chinese New Year, Cinco de Mayo, Oktoberfest or Halloween, all
9 of which give Nevada an international, cosmopolitan feel that
10 celebrates the coming together of people with different languages
11 and backgrounds; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
13 SENATE CONCURRING, That the members of the 75th Nevada
14 Legislature recognize the great contributions that immigrants have
15 made to the vitality and growth of Nevada and America; and be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That the Legislature urges the residents of Nevada
18 to celebrate the ethnic and cultural diversity of its people and their
19 traditions which have added to our wealth of great music, art,
20 education, science and intellect.

