

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING
ACR 140 (Patel)
As Introduced February 18, 2026
Majority vote

SUMMARY

Proclaims March 21, 2026, as California Women in STEM Day.

Major Provisions

- 1) California as a state is committed towards promoting diversity and gender equality by ensuring that all genders have equal opportunity in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).
- 2) Throughout history, women have made extensive contributions in the areas of STEM. Data indicates that gender image, as it relates to STEM subjects in school, may impact a young woman's aspirations to pursue college-level studies and careers in STEM industries.
- 3) Women are underrepresented in STEM-related fields, comprising approximately 17.6% of workers in STEM-related jobs, despite advancements in technology which have resulted in an increased number of STEM jobs overall.
- 4) Female scientists and engineers have made enormous strides in occupations concentrated in the fields of biological sciences (55 %) and chemical and material sciences (36 %) as compared to the past. The percentage of women occupying engineering has remained stagnant (15 %), while chemical and material science occupations have decreased compared to the past (40 %).
- 5) Without women, many of the advancements in STEM would not be seen in today's society.
- 6) California encourages the participation of women to join STEM careers to level the gender imbalances within those careers. California celebrates, supports, and commends those who have aided in furthering the participation and involvement of women in STEM careers and activities.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

With decreases in representation for chemical and material science and stagnant participation in fields related to engineering, women are often a marginalized group in STEM related fields. They continue to face societal norms that influence their ambitions of pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. California will uplift and ensure that there are equal opportunities for all.

Arguments in Support

None on file

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

No fiscal impact. This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

VOTES

ASM RULES: 6-0-4

YES: Pacheco, Ahrens, Dixon, Garcia, Mark González, Michelle Rodriguez

ABS, ABST OR NV: Lackey, Irwin, Sanchez, Zbur

UPDATED

VERSION: February 18, 2026

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