

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING
ACR 145 (Caloza)
As Introduced February 20, 2026
Majority vote

SUMMARY

Proclaims the week of March 1, 2026, to March 7, 2026, inclusive, as Women in Construction Week.

Major Provisions

- 1) In 1987, Congress declared March as national Women's History Month in perpetuity, and since then, the industry has celebrated women in construction during the first week of March.
- 2) 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.
- 3) The construction industry in California has tremendous need for skilled and motivated workers, managers, and entrepreneurs from all segments of the population.
- 4) 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.
- 5) Women face many barriers to entering and staying in the construction field and have historically been excluded from apprenticeship opportunities that lead to meaningful careers with family-supporting wages.
- 6) Apprenticeships are a critical pathway for women to participate fully and equally in California's growing economy.
- 7) Research has shown that gender diversity is associated with increased performance, innovation, and opportunity. Having more women entrepreneurs and small business owners operating in the construction industry will only benefit the working conditions for women across all industries.
- 8) 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.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

For too long, opportunities for women in construction have felt out of reach. The industry has been historically male-dominated, and too many talented, capable women have been sidelined. ACR 145 sends a clear message to young women everywhere: a career in construction is not only attainable—it is a space where you can lead, innovate, and thrive.

Today, women hold only about 10% of construction trade jobs and apprenticeships nationwide, despite making up more than half of our country's population. At a time when California faces one of the most urgent housing crises in the nation, we cannot afford to overlook talent, skill, and determination.

By expanding opportunities and empowering more women to enter and lead in the trades, we strengthen our workforce, accelerate housing production, and build a more inclusive economy. When women thrive, our communities grow stronger, our economy flourishes, and the next generation can see—and believe in—what is possible.

Arguments in Support

The American Subcontractors Association of California (ASAC) writes in support: "This resolution provides an important opportunity to acknowledge the valuable contributions of women to California's construction industry and to highlight the need for increased gender diversity in the sector."

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

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

VOTES

ASM RULES: 7-0-3

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

ABS, ABST OR NV: Irwin, Sanchez, Zbur

UPDATED

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