

Date of Hearing: March 2, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES
Blanca Pacheco, Chair
ACR 147 (Lackey) – As Introduced February 23, 2026

SUBJECT: Special Olympics Day.

SUMMARY: Proclaims March 9, 2026, as Special Olympics Day in California; and, congratulates Team NorCal and Team SoCal for their accomplishments thus far and wish them success in the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Special Olympics is the world's largest sports organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, providing year-round training and competitions to more than four million athletes and Unified Sports partners in 177 countries.
- 2) Special Olympics California is the leading voice in raising awareness about the abilities of people with intellectual disabilities in California.
- 3) Special Olympics California events bring together a large and inclusive community of athletes, families, supporters, coaches, volunteers, and many others.
- 4) Through the power of sports, Special Olympics California athletes discover new strengths, abilities, confidence, and success on the playing field and in life.
- 5) Special Olympics California provides free year-round services and programs in sports, schools, leadership, and health and wellness to more than 50,000 people with intellectual disabilities and their families in the state.
- 6) Special Olympics California provides screenings, including vision, eye health, audiology, dentistry, prevention and nutrition, podiatry, and mental and emotional health.
- 7) Special Olympics brings the power of Unified Champion Schools programs to over 1,100 schools and more than 300,000 students annually. Cultivating friendship and belonging between students with and without disabilities, the program spans preschool to transition schools, and includes sports curriculum, youth leadership, and resources for educators.
- 8) The 2026 Special Olympics USA Games will take place from June 20, 2026, to June 26, 2026, in Minnesota, happening once every four years, and will bring together Special Olympics athletes from across the country to compete and celebrate in the spirit of inclusion.
- 9) The 2026 Special Olympics USA Games Team NorCal and Team SoCal will include the Law Enforcement Torch Run and will represent Special Olympics Northern California and Special Olympics Southern California in 11 sports, including basketball, bowling, golf, softball, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and field, unified bocce, unified flag football, and unified soccer.

FISCAL EFFECT: This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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