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THIRD READING

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Bill No: ACR 153  
Author: Calderon (D), et al.  
Introduced: 3/2/26  
Vote: 21

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**SUBJECT:** Irish American Heritage Month

**SOURCE:** Author

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**DIGEST:** This resolution designates March 2026 as Irish American Heritage Month in honor of 102 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and Ireland and commemorates the multitude of contributions that Irish Americans have made to this country and state.

**ANALYSIS:** This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The year 2026 marks 102 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and Ireland, over a century of official meaningful engagement of which both countries are very proud.
- 2) Irish Americans played vital roles in the development of the United States. Nine Irish Americans were signers of the Declaration of Independence, and 23 Presidents of the United States have been of Irish heritage, including John F. Kennedy, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, George H. W. Bush, Barack Obama, and Joe Biden.
- 3) Irish Americans have also played a major role in California politics as governors, legislative leaders, city mayors, and other public officials, who have worked tirelessly to build California into the state that it is today.
- 4) There is significant economic reciprocity between California and Ireland, including Ireland as the seventh largest source of foreign direct investment through wholly foreign-owned enterprises in California, and there is work underway to further build these relationships.

- 5) Today, over 35 million Americans claim Irish heritage, and they continue to contribute to the politics, economy, and culture of the United States and California.

This resolution, in honor of 102 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and Ireland and the multitude of contributions that Irish Americans have made to make this a better country and state for all people, designates March 2026 to be Irish American Heritage Month in California, and calls upon the people of the state to observe the month of March with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities, especially on March 17, because everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day.

### **Related/Prior Legislation**

ACR 51 (Haney, Resolution Chapter 34, Statutes of 2025)

ACR 149 (Gallagher, Resolution Chapter 41, Statutes of 2024)

SR 77 (McGuire, 2024) – Adopted in Senate.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

**SUPPORT:** (Verified 3/24/26)

None received

**OPPOSITION:** (Verified 3/24/26)

None received

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3/25/26 16:19:11

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