

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 157
Author: Hoover (R), et al.
Introduced: 3/4/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975: 50th anniversary

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) For 50 years, the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) has served as California’s framework for balancing the extraction of essential minerals with the protection of the environment, public health, and local communities, ensuring that mined lands are reclaimed and returned to beneficial use.
- 2) SMARA recognizes that mineral resources are fundamental to strong communities, providing the raw materials for clean water, housing, transportation, and technology, while ensuring they are developed responsibly for the benefit of future generations.
- 3) The act established a framework of shared governance between local and state agencies, aligning community accountability with statewide oversight to sustain responsible mining and reclamation across California.
- 4) California remains among the nation’s leading producers of nonfuel minerals, with essential commodities such as aggregates, limestone for cement, gypsum, boron, and rare earth elements forming the foundation for housing, agriculture, transportation, water systems, and climate-resilient infrastructure.

This resolution commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975, honors the leadership of Senator John A. Nejedly, Governor Edmund G. “Jerry” Brown, Jr., and the many bipartisan policymakers,

local officials, and industry partners whose vision created SMARA, and reaffirms California's enduring commitment to responsible mineral resource management and environmental restoration.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

California Construction & Industrial Materials Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

None received

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7/1/26 16:55:24

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