



- 5) Recognizes the urgent importance of sustainability and environmental responsibility, acknowledging the potential partnership for cooperative research and innovation in renewable energy, responsible mining, and water resource management in both states.
- 6) Declares that a formal sister state relationship will strengthen cooperation in education, workforce, development, culture, environmental stewardship, humanitarian collaboration, and economic exchange, building upon decades of people-to-people connections.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Unknown. This resolution is not keyed as fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

**COMMENTS:**

1. **Purpose.** The Author is the Sponsor of this resolution. According to the Author, “As the proud granddaughter of Mexican immigrants, I believe the relationship between our two states can shape individual’s opportunity, economic mobility, and support working families. Establishing a sister state relationship with the State of Zacatecas would create opportunities for cultural exchange, economic collaboration, and educational partnerships that strengthen connections between California communities and a region that has helped shape so many lives.
2. **Background.** This resolution seeks to formalize a sister state relationship with Zacatecas based on generational connections, a shared historical and cultural heritage and economic opportunities. Zacatecas is a historic area known for its silver mining, abundance of minerals and colonial architecture. An influx of migration throughout the years has resulted in the largest population of Zacatecas’s living in California while maintaining familial and economic ties to their homeland.

The State of Zacatecas has invested in large scale industrial plants, expanding their automotive and auto parts manufacturing footprint to strengthen the North American supply chains while creating opportunities to partner with California in advanced manufacturing sectors. Agroindustry, aerospace manufacturing, and renewable energy investments add to the primary industrial sectors in Zacatecas aligning with California’s commitment to clean technology, sustainable agriculture and innovation.

The Historic Centre of Zacatecas, designated as a World Heritage Site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) holds historical significance as colonial architecture rich in cultural beauty and exceptional artistic value mirroring California’s dedication to cultural diversity and creativity. Educational opportunities, academic exchanges, and binational scientific research are values that are shared and encouraged by binational partnerships with Zacatecas and California.

3. **Arguments in Support.** The Asociacion de Jaliscienses Unidos en Accion writes in support, “The relationship between California and Zacatecas simply makes sense. Cross-border economic ties translate into real benefits for workers, businesses, and families on both sides- so investing in local-level collaboration is a practical, high-

impact approach. ACR 166 truly aligns with our mission to preserve and promote the Mexican roots in the United States, supporting the migrant community through services, education, culture, guidance and social programs that improve their quality of life.”

The Mexican-American Policy Alliance notes in support, “The state sisterhood is a natural next step in cementing the strong relationship between Zacatecas and California. About 600,000 people of Zacatecan origin live in California, with the largest concentration in Southern California. Zacatecas and California share more than just people—they share a rich, beautiful history shaped by culture and language. A sister-state relationship between the two would create opportunities to promote and share cultural and tourism experiences, while also encouraging joint business growth and workforce development collaboration.”

**SUPPORT AND OPPOSITION:**Support:

The Asociacion de Jaliscienses Unidos en Accion  
Mexican American Policy Alliance

Opposition:

None received

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