

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING

ACR 199 (Kalra and Patel)

As Introduced May 6, 2026

Majority vote

SUMMARY

Recognizes August 15, 2026, as India's Independence Day; and urges all Californians to join in celebrating India's independence.

Major Provisions

- 1) As the day began on August 15, 1947, at the stroke of midnight, the first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru, gave his famous Tryst with Destiny speech proclaiming India's independence. The Tryst with Destiny speech captured the essence of the nonviolent Indian freedom struggle against British colonial rule in India.
- 2) India's Independence Day is one of the most important national holidays in India. The biggest event of the day takes place in Delhi where the Prime Minister hoists the national flag at the Red Fort, delivers a nationally televised speech that highlights the achievements of the government, discusses current issues and future plans for progress, and pays tribute to the leaders of India's struggle for freedom.
- 3) India's Independence Day is celebrated on August 15 of each year to commemorate its independence. It was celebrated by 400 million Indians in 1947 and today is celebrated by over one billion people living in India, and many people living in other parts of the world, including California, which is home to the largest population of Asian Indians in the United States.
- 4) Ever since August 15, 1947, India's nonviolent struggle for freedom, its rejection of terrorism and extremism, and its belief in democracy, tolerance, and the rule of law have been an inspiration and beacon of hope for people around the world.
- 5) India's example has had a profound effect on many countries, including the United States. The over three million members of the Indian American community are living examples of the bonds that bind our nations together and their accomplishments have become well-known and admired in both countries.

COMMENTS**According to the Author**

ACR 199 highlights the positive ties between India and United States, as both share strong values in democracy. This is also an opportunity to recognize India's heritage and history as California is home to many Indian Americans that make significant contributions to our communities.

Arguments in Support

None on file

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

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

VOTES

ASM RULES: 8-0-1

YES: Pacheco, Dixon, Garcia, Mark González, Irwin, Ta, Michelle Rodriguez, Sanchez

ABS, ABST OR NV: Zbur

UPDATED

VERSION: May 6, 2026

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