

Date of Hearing: April 13, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES
Blanca Pacheco, Chair
HR 99 (Soria) – As Introduced March 26, 2026

SUBJECT: California Agriculture Day.

SUMMARY: Recognizes and honors all those who work in California agriculture for their dedication and productivity by designating April 21, 2026, as California Agriculture Day and by observing March 24, 2026, as National Agriculture Day. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) April 21, 2026, is designated as California Agriculture Day, a day of celebration to commemorate agriculture’s importance in our daily lives, its vital role in keeping Californians nourished, and its role in keeping the state’s economy ranked as the fourth largest in the world.
- 2) The theme of California Agriculture Day 2026 is “California Leads,” highlighting the many ways California’s agricultural sector leads the way, from innovative climate-smart agricultural practices and the success of the Farm-to-School Program to specialty crops and the inspiring contributions of female farmers.
- 3) California celebrates 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer and the essential role women play in every step of the food and farming system, stewarding more than 11 million acres of farmland and accelerating sustainability, innovation, and food security for all.
- 4) For more than 60 consecutive years, California has been the number one agricultural state in the nation, producing more than 400 crop and livestock products and accounting for over one-third of vegetables and nearly three-quarters of the fruits and nuts produced in the United States.
- 5) California is the nation’s leader in agricultural exports, shipping \$23.8 billion in food and agricultural commodities around the world in 2024, which represents a 6.1 percent increase over the previous year.
- 6) California is the nation’s sole exporter of many agricultural commodities, supplying 99 percent or more of the nation’s exported almonds, artichokes, dates, figs, garlic, kiwifruit, olives and olive oil, pistachios, prunes, raisins, table grapes, tomatoes for processing, and walnuts.
- 7) California’s organic production sales were \$11.8 billion in 2023, which is a 21.7 percent increase since 2019. Organic production encompasses 1.78 million acres in the state, and California is the only state in the United States with a National Organic Program authorized state organic program.
- 8) California’s Farm-to-School Program serves as a model for the nation, connecting California-grown foods with school meal programs in 86 percent of California counties, with the goal of

cultivating equity, nurturing students, building climate resilience, and creating scalable and sustainable changes in the school food system.

- 9) California's agricultural industry constantly seeks to incorporate the latest scientific and technological production and marketing techniques to meet the demands of changing consumer needs and complex world markets.
- 10) Science, technology, and innovation have enabled California agriculture to continually improve quality, safety, and consumer product choice, and drive advancements in organic production, reduced water use, and more sustainable pest management practices, including biological controls.
- 11) It is appropriate for all Californians to recognize our farmers, ranchers, farmworkers, and others involved in providing such a bounty to our nation and the entire world.

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

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Michael Erke / RLS. / (916) 319-2800