
THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 159
Author: Alvarado-Gil (R), et al.
Introduced: 4/9/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: California Rodeo Appreciation Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution designates the month of April as California Rodeo Appreciation Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) California rodeos date back to the late 1700s when California was a province of New Spain; rodeos representative of the present day were first reported in the late 19th century.
- 2) California rodeos are not only rich in history, but rich in diversity, and while some may associate cowboy activities with Hispanic, indigenous, and White culture presently, it is imperative to acknowledge its pertinence to African American culture as well.
- 3) Senate District 4 is rich in California rodeo history, hosting rodeos in the Counties of Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Inyo, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne. Senate District 4 is home to the historic City of Oakdale, known as the “Cowboy Capital of the World,” which hosts the Oakdale Saddle Club Rodeo, attracting both local and international audiences.
- 4) California rodeos drive the state’s economy upward and serve as tourist attractions, generating jobs for Californians with professional contestants, contract personnel, arena workers, and concessionaires. In 2014, the California Rodeo Salinas and Bull Riding events generated \$6.2 million.
- 5) Rodeo is an integral part of California’s rural mystique and preserves the culture of rural, western living, and, at a deeper level, is manifested by several

symbolic themes that include the control of nature and lack thereof and the conquest of the “Wild West” by an industrialist culture. California’s rodeos not only serve as a reminder of what life was, but what modern life wishes to be, representing longstanding cultural practices that ground California’s agricultural and western societies.

This resolution extends its warmest regards and appreciation to the thousands of volunteers, directors, participants, businesses, supporters, sponsors, and associations that maintain and nurture the network of California rodeos, permitting these events to remain vibrant, relevant, and successful.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 4/15/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 4/15/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
4/15/26 13:55:43

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