
THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 39
Author: Durazo (D), et al.
Introduced: 3/17/25
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares that the Legislature honors the life and legacy of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and proclaims March 15, 2025, as Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Day, a day of remembrance and education to ensure that all Californians always honor and remember a vibrant guardian of equality for all.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Women’s History Month in the United States is celebrated in March and commemorates and encourages the study, observance, and celebration of the vital role of women in American history. One of these historical leaders is Ruth Bader Ginsburg of Brooklyn, New York, born on March 15, 1933, who was one of the most notable and influential Justices to have served on the United States Supreme Court.
- 2) As a woman and a person of the Jewish faith, Justice Ginsburg endured gender and religious discrimination that denied her employment opportunities. However, she overcame gender and religious discrimination by becoming the first female professor to earn tenure at Columbia Law School.
- 3) Justice Ginsburg was a champion for gender justice, abortion rights, voting rights, the rights of immigrants, and the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals. Justice Ginsburg steadfastly protected the rights of African Americans, women, immigrants, gays and lesbians, persons accused of crimes, political dissidents, and other groups in our society whose rights and interests are too often disregarded by a hostile or indifferent majority. She was devoted to the preservation of a fair electoral system, whether the issue was campaign finance reform, gerrymandered legislative districts, or expanding and preserving voting rights.

- 4) Justice Ginsburg once said, “I’m sometimes asked when will there be enough [women on the Supreme Court]. And I say when there are nine ... people are shocked. But there’d been nine men, and nobody’s ever raised a question about that.”
- 5) Justice Ginsburg died on September 18, 2020, at 87 years of age after a long battle with cancer, and became the first woman and the first Jewish person to lie in state in 168 years and only the second United States Supreme Court Justice to lie in state.

This resolution declares that the Legislature honors the life and legacy of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and proclaims March 15, 2025, as Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Day, a day of remembrance and education to ensure that all Californians always honor and remember a vibrant guardian of equality for all.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 46 (Soria, 2025) – Adopted in the Assembly.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 3/19/25)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 3/19/25)

None received

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