Assembly
California Legislature
Committee on Rules

KEN COOLEY
CHAIR

Monday, March 12, 2018
10 minutes prior to Session
State Capitol, Room 3162

CONSENT AGENDA

BILL REFERRALS

1. Bill Referrals

RESOLUTIONS

2. ACR-178 (Mullin) Relative to Irish American Heritage Month.
Memo

To: Rules Committee Members
From: Michael Erke, Bill Referral Consultant
Date: 3/9/18
Re: Consent Bill Referrals

Since you received your preliminary list of bill referrals, AB 3189 has been removed. The referral recommendation for AB 3128 has been changed.
Pursuant to the Assembly Rules, the following bills were referred to committee:

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HR 86   RLS.
SCR 38   RLS.
Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 178

Introduced by Assembly Members Mullin and Brough

February 16, 2018

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 178—Relative to Irish American Heritage Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 178, as introduced, Mullin. Irish American Heritage Month. This measure would designate March 2018 as Irish American Heritage Month in honor of the multitude of contributions that Irish Americans have made to the country and state.

Fiscal committee: no.

WHEREAS, Millions of Irish people, faced with severe hardship due to famine and poverty in their nation, immigrated to the United States over the last several centuries in search of a more promising future for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, The journey to America from the Emerald Isle was not paved with gold. The Irish spirit of determination, perseverance, and grit prevailed against dangerous seas and deadly conditions with their hearts set on the horizon; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans initially suffered prejudice and discrimination upon first arriving in the United States. As the years went on, Irish Americans became deeply integrated in their communities and made numerous contributions in all aspects of American society and culture; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans played vital roles in the development of the United States. Nine Irish Americans were
signers of the Declaration of Independence, and 22 Presidents of
the United States have been of Irish heritage, including John F.
Kennedy, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama; and
WHEREAS, Many people of Irish descent have contributed to
great movements that have helped to shape our country and its
role in the world, including Mother Jones, labor activist; Lucy
Burns, activist in the Women’s Movement; and Senator George
Mitchell, negotiator of the Irish Peace Accord; and
WHEREAS, Irish Americans have also played a major role in
California politics as governors, legislative leaders, city mayors,
and other public officials, who have worked tirelessly to build
California to the state that it is today; and
WHEREAS, Irish Americans were significantly involved in the
development of infrastructure throughout the United States,
especially in California. This included work on railroads and
bridges that connected the West to the East. The Irish were also
instrumental in the building of dams, roads, canals, and buildings
that expanded greatly in the late 1800s; and
WHEREAS, Many Irish Americans have made their mark as
peace officers and firefighters and have risked or lost their lives
on countless occasions in carrying out their duties; and
WHEREAS, Many outstanding soldiers, never to be forgotten,
who fought for American freedom in the Revolutionary War were
of Irish descent. Irish Americans have proudly served with
distinction in every war that this nation has fought and continue
to do so today; and
WHEREAS, Many Irish Americans have contributed greatly to
the United States economy in business, including: Alexander
Stewart, the inventor of the American department store; Cathleen
Black, president of Hearst Publishing; Jack Welch, former president
and chief executive officer of General Electric; Herb Kelleher,
cofounder of Southwest Airlines; Paul Adams of Facebook; John
Donahoe, chief executive officer of eBay, Inc.; Conrad Burke,
founder of InnovaLight; and Maggie Sullivan Wilderotter, chief
executive officer of Frontier Communications; and
WHEREAS, Irish Americans have contributed to the field of
science, including: astronaut Michael Collins; the first female
commander of a space shuttle, Eileen Collins; physicist and Nobel
Laureate Charles Townes; and bioengineer and MacArthur “Genius
grant” recipient James Collins; and
WHEREAS, Irish Americans have contributed to the American literary tradition through great authors, including Flannery O’Connor, Eugene O’Neill, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Mary McCarthy, Tom Clancy, and Frank McCourt; and
WHEREAS, Irish Americans have contributed to American entertainment with such stars as actors Jack Nicholson, John Wayne, and George Clooney; actor and comedian Bill Murray; actress Grace Kelly; actress and comedian Rosie O’Donnell; actor and singer Bing Crosby; actress and singer Rosemary Clooney; actress and singer Judy Garland; comedian Conan O’Brien; and actor and director Edward Burns, all being of Irish heritage; and
WHEREAS, Today, over 34 million Americans claim Irish heritage, and they continue to contribute to the American and California politics, economy, and culture; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature, in honor of the multitude of contributions that Irish Americans have made to make this a better country and state for all people, designates March 2018 to be Irish American Heritage Month in California, and calls upon the people of the state to observe the month of March with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities, especially on March 17, since everyone is Irish on St. Patrick’s Day; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.
Date of Hearing:  March 12, 2018

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES
Ken Cooley, Chair
ACR 178 (Mullin) – As Introduced  February 16, 2018

SUBJECT:  Relative to Irish American Heritage Month

SUMMARY:  Designates March 2018 as Irish American Heritage Month in honor of the multitude of contributions that Irish Americans have made to better the country and state. Specifically, this resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1)  Over the last several centuries, millions of Irish people faced severe hardship in their nation and immigrated to the United States in search of a more promising future for themselves and their families.

2)  Irish Americans initially suffered prejudice and discrimination upon arriving in the United States. As the years went on, Irish Americans became deeply integrated in the community and made important contributions in all aspects of American society and culture.

3)  Irish Americans have also played a major role in California politics as governors, legislative leaders, city mayors, and other public officials.

4)  Irish Americans were significantly involved in the development of infrastructure in California, including work on railroads and bridges.

5)  Many Irish Americans have made their mark as peace officers, firefighters, and soldiers who have proudly served with distinction in every war that this nation has fought.

6)  Today, over 34 million Americans claim Irish heritage, and they continue to contribute to American and California politics, economy, and culture.

FISCAL EFFECT:  None

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support
None on file

Opposition
None on file

Analysis Prepared by:  Nicole Willis / RLS. / (916) 319-2800