

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 19, 2021

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2021–22 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 104

Introduced by Assembly Member Holden

August 17, 2021

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 104—Relative to a sister state relationship with Punjab, Pakistan.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 104, as amended, Holden. Punjab, Pakistan: sister state relationship.

The measure would express the intent and commitment of the state to enter into a sister state relationship with the Province of Punjab, Pakistan, until December 31, 2026.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Punjab is Pakistan’s most populous province, with
2 a population of about 110,000,000; and

3 WHEREAS, Punjab’s capital, Lahore, is a cultural, historical,
4 economic, and cosmopolitan center of Pakistan where the country’s
5 cinema industry and much of its fashion industry are based, similar
6 to California; and

7 WHEREAS, Agriculture continues to be the largest sector of
8 Punjab’s economy. The province is the breadbasket of the country,
9 similar to California; and

10 WHEREAS, There are over 250,000 Punjabi Americans in
11 California, many of whom first settled in California’s central valley
12 to do agricultural work; and

1 WHEREAS, Punjab has the largest economy in Pakistan. In
2 2007, Punjab achieved a growth rate of 7.8 percent. During the
3 period from 2002–03 to 2007–08, its economy grew at rates
4 between 7 to 8 percent each year. During the 2008–09 fiscal year,
5 Punjab’s economy grew at a rate of 6 percent, substantially faster
6 than the total gross domestic product growth of Pakistan; and

7 WHEREAS, A sister-state relationship between the State of
8 California and the Province of Punjab would promote mutual trade
9 and commerce and increase the potential for educational,
10 environmental, and cultural relations between the Province of
11 Punjab and the State of California; now, therefore, be it

12 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
13 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature of the State of California,
14 on behalf of the people of California, extends to the people of the
15 province of Punjab, Pakistan, an invitation to join with California
16 in a sister state relationship until December 31, 2026,—~~in~~
17 ~~coordination with Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis, as the~~
18 ~~Governor’s Representative for International Affairs and Trade~~
19 ~~Development established under executive order N-08-19,~~ in order
20 to encourage and facilitate mutually beneficial economic,
21 educational, environmental, and cultural exchanges and to lead to
22 a more indelible and lasting relationship between Californians and
23 the people of the province of Punjab, Pakistan; and be it further

24 *Resolved, That any sister state agreement developed will identify*
25 *objectives, areas of mutual interest, a list of potential activities,*
26 *and an initial list of public and private partners that will help to*
27 *advance the purposes of the sister state agreement, including one*
28 *or more entities that will serve as facilitators and general points*
29 *of contact; and be it further*

30 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
31 of this resolution to the Governor of California, ~~to the Lieutenant~~
32 ~~Governor of California,~~ to the Governor of Punjab, *to the*
33 *Legislature of Punjab,* and to each Senator and Representative
34 from California in the Congress of the United States.