

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 26

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 67

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 26—Relative to Historic U.S. Highway Route 6.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 3, 2007.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 26, Sharon Runner. Historic U.S. Highway Route 6.

The measure would request the Department of Transportation, upon application by an interested local agency or private entity, to identify any section of former U.S. Highway Route 6 that is still a publicly maintained highway and that is of interest to the applicant, and to designate that section as Historic U.S. Highway Route 6. This measure would also request the department to determine the costs of appropriate highway markers or signs showing that special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect appropriate highway markers or signs on the portions of former U.S. Highway Route 6 that are part of the state highway system.

WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 6 began in the 1920s as a short route between Provincetown, Massachusetts, and Brewster, New York; and

WHEREAS, Thereafter, U.S. Highway Route 6 was extended westward and, in 1926, ended in Denver, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Around 1937, U.S. Highway Route 6 became a transcontinental highway when it was extended to Long Beach, California. The route thereby stretched a distance of 3,517 miles, making it the longest highway in the country; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 6 has been called the Roosevelt Highway and is now officially named the Grand Army of the Republic Highway; and

WHEREAS, In 1964, California renumbered its state highway system and truncated U.S. Highway Route 6 at Bishop, California; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 6 now stretches 3,249 miles and is recognized as the second longest highway in the country; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Highway Route 6, in addition to its importance in transportation, has outstanding natural, cultural, historic, and scenic qualities; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, U.S. Highway Route 6 has conveyed commerce and pleasure travelers whose needs were met by nearby cities and counties; and

WHEREAS, Though largely supplanted by other state highway routes, segments of the original U.S. Highway Route 6 remain, although many are no longer identified as such; and

WHEREAS, Former U.S. Highway Route 6 served as the main street of many California cities and towns along its length and, though no longer designated as former U.S. Highway Route 6, these segments represent both state and local historic significance; and

WHEREAS, Without formal designation, the history and contribution of these segments of U.S. Highway Route 6 to the development of the state would remain less known; and

WHEREAS, Recognition of these segments will foster the economic health and cultural preservation of small communities and towns located along the highway; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that a means to designate these historic sections of former U.S. Highway Route 6 be established; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby recognizes the remaining segments of former U.S. Highway Route 6 for their historical significance and importance in the development of California; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested, upon application by an interested local agency or private entity, to identify any section of former U.S. Highway Route 6 that is still a publicly maintained highway and that is of interest to the applicant, and to designate that section of highway as Historic U.S. Highway Route 6; and be it further

Resolved, That the department is requested to determine the cost of appropriate highway markers or signs consistent with signing requirements for the state highway system showing the special Historic U.S. Highway Route 6 designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those highway markers or signs on the portions of former U.S. Highway Route 6 that are part of the state highway system; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author for appropriate distribution.