

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 103

Adopted in Senate June 30, 2008

Secretary of the Senate

Adopted in Assembly June 26, 2008

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

This resolution was received by the Secretary of State this
____ day of _____, 2008, at ____ o'clock ____M.

Deputy Secretary of State

RESOLUTION CHAPTER _____

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 103—Relative to the Senator Chuck Poochigian Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 103, Cogdill. Senator Chuck Poochigian Highway.

This measure would designate a prescribed section of State Highway Route 180 as the Senator Chuck Poochigian Highway. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs so designating that section of State Highway Route 180 and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

WHEREAS, Charles S. “Chuck” Poochigian is a third generation resident of central California who was born and raised on a family farm in the Lone Star area of eastern Fresno County, between Fresno and Sanger, near the Highway 180 corridor; and

WHEREAS, Chuck and his wife, Debbie, were married in 1977 and have three grown children, a daughter-in-law, and a grandson; and

WHEREAS, Chuck Poochigian received his bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from California State University, Fresno in 1972, and his law degree from the Santa Clara University School of Law in 1975, he served for six years as a member of the California Air National Guard, and he practiced general civil and business law from 1975 until November 1988; and

WHEREAS, In 1988, Poochigian was chosen by Governor George Deukmejian to serve on his senior staff, and assisted the Governor in the selection of key administration officials and members of over 375 state boards and commissions, as well as certain judicial appointments; and

WHEREAS, In 1991, Governor Pete Wilson named Poochigian as his Appointments Secretary, with the primary focus on assisting the Governor in his selection of judges for California’s trial and appellate courts; and

WHEREAS, Poochigian was elected to the California State Assembly in 1994, and to the California State Senate in 1998, and

over the course of his legislative career he represented eastern parts of central California from Bakersfield to Lodi; and

WHEREAS, As a legislator, Poochigian focused his energy on major public policy issues while being attentive to the particular needs of his constituents in the rich agricultural region of central California, and held key positions including serving as the Chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee, as the Assistant Republican Leader in the Assembly, as the Republican Caucus Chair and the Assistant Republican Leader in the Senate, and as a legislative appointee to the Little Hoover Commission appointed by both Democratic and Republican leaders; and

WHEREAS, Poochigian received numerous awards and recognition for outstanding public service, including an Outstanding Senator Award, numerous Legislator of the Year Awards, a Technology Leader Award, a Distinguished Legislator Award, a Distinguished Service Award, two President's Recognition Awards, a Distinguished Alumnus Award, and, along with his wife Debbie, a 2007 Distinguished Service Award; and

WHEREAS, Poochigian was a highly respected leader in Sacramento and a staunch advocate for sound fiscal planning, living within our means, and ensuring that the people of central California received a fair share of infrastructure funding, including the distribution of moneys for transportation and school construction; and

WHEREAS, Poochigian authored numerous bills that involved comprehensive reform and required bipartisan consensus, including laws dealing with the expansion of higher education opportunities, special education funding, workers' compensation system reform, and public safety; and

WHEREAS, Poochigian worked tirelessly to support the rights of crime victims and their families, led the fight against identity theft, worked to protect children from dangerous sexual predators, authored bills to incarcerate persons who commit felonies using firearms, and was an advocate for tough penalties for repeat offenders; and

WHEREAS, Poochigian's reputation for strong leadership and hard work was recognized by the California Journal magazine, which ranked him Assembly Republican "Rookie of the Year" for 1996, and he was also ranked among the top five legislators in the 80-member State Assembly in the following separate categories:

effectiveness, integrity, intelligence, problem solving, potential, and overall; and

WHEREAS, In ratings released in March 1998, Poochigian was recognized as one of the top five Assembly Members in the categories of integrity and hard work, in the June 1999 California Journal he was described as “A voice of reason highly respected for his problem-solving skills,” and in August 2004, the California Journal selected him as the Senate recipient of its “Minnie Award” for integrity; and

WHEREAS, Senator Poochigian now practices law with the Fresno-based firm of Dowling, Aaron & Keeler; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates the section of State Highway Route 180 between Clovis Avenue and General Grant Grove Park, in the County of Fresno, as the Senator Chuck Poochigian Highway; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover that cost, to erect those signs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the author for appropriate distribution.

Attest:

Secretary of State