

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 8, 2009

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 50

Introduced by Senator Cox

June 22, 2009

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 50—Relative to the *CHP Officer Raymond Carpenter Memorial Highway Interchange*.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 50, as amended, Cox. *CHP Officer Raymond Carpenter Memorial Highway Interchange*.

This measure would designate a specified ~~portion of interchange on~~ Interstate Highway 80 in Placer County as the *CHP Officer Raymond Carpenter Memorial Highway Interchange*. The measure would also request that the Department of Transportation determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Raymond Roy Carpenter was born on July 15,
2 1929, in the Wolf area of Placer County, between Auburn and
3 Grass Valley. He was the firstborn son to Guy Roy Carpenter and
4 Mamie L. Eddington. He was born in a small cabin with no inside
5 plumbing and no electricity. The Carpenter family moved shortly
6 after his birth to the Sullivan Ranch in Auburn, where Ray's father
7 was the foreman. Ray learned the ways of a ranch hand, working
8 with cattle, sheep, and the many different orchards at the ranch.
9 In 1943 the family moved again to 831 Old Route 5 (now Dairy
10 Road) in Auburn, a house which Ray later owned and which is
11 owned and resided in by Ray's sister Pearl Burkett; and

1 WHEREAS, Ray attended Placer High School and that is where
2 his interest in the military began. He was a member of the Junior
3 Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC). Ray graduated from
4 Placer High and immediately joined the United States Air Force,
5 serving as an enlisted man specializing in weather forecast and
6 analysis. He was stationed in Chanute Air Force Base in Illinois,
7 later in Virginia during which he changed his career field to
8 security police. His last post was Elmendorf Air Force Base in
9 Alaska. Alaska was a territory and not a state at the time, and Ray
10 had the opportunity to be a homesteader, which meant that he
11 homesteaded a piece of property, building a cabin with his own
12 hands and living in it. Ray was an avid hunter and fisherman, so
13 this suited his lifestyle perfectly. Ray served during the Korean
14 War, and his service qualified him for membership in the Veterans
15 of Foreign Wars (VFW) organization. Ray was honorably
16 discharged from the United States Air Force as a Technical
17 Sergeant; and

18 WHEREAS, Ray joined the Department of the California
19 Highway Patrol (CHP) soon after his discharge from the United
20 States Air Force. He was initially assigned to Bakersfield. He
21 transferred to the Truckee area office and finally made his way to
22 the Auburn office. Ray was soon back at home in the Auburn area
23 patrolling the roads in his hometown. His widow Pat said that law
24 enforcement and the CHP suited Ray perfectly, due to his great
25 respect for authority. Ray's friend and coworker, retired officer
26 Jim Mayhorn, relates that he and Ray were also very active in the
27 early days of the Civil Air Patrol Squadron 60 in Auburn. Jim said
28 that Ray was an aircraft observer and would often go up and assist
29 with search and rescue missions in the area; and

30 WHEREAS, Other than his seven-year service in the United
31 States Air Force and the beginning of his CHP career, Ray lived
32 in the Auburn area his whole life; and

33 WHEREAS, In the early 1960s, Ray ran for the State Senate
34 seat for the district that covers Auburn, and narrowly lost in his
35 bid against the incumbent, Ron Cameron. His wife Pat said that
36 he ran for the Senate strictly because he disagreed with the
37 incumbent and felt he could do a better job; and

38 WHEREAS, Ray is described by all who knew him as the kind
39 of guy who would look to help another out. When he came across
40 someone less fortunate and in need, he would easily provide the

1 person a ride, or a burger at the local burger place, or even take
2 the person home for a couple of days to get the person back on his
3 or her feet; and

4 WHEREAS, Pat tells the story of Ray and Ken Lawton. Ray
5 pulled Ken over one Saturday morning for extremely high speed
6 on eastbound State Highway Route 80. The young United States
7 Navy sailor explained, after a short pursuit and being handcuffed
8 at gunpoint, that he was on a weekend pass and was attempting to
9 go home to Provo, Utah. Ray explained that even if Ken didn't
10 splatter himself and his motorcycle all over the Nevada desert and
11 made it all the way home, he would only have 20 minutes with his
12 family and have to turn around and come back. Ray convinced
13 Ken to stay. He let Ken sleep on the couch at his house, and took
14 him on a ride along with the patrol the next day. They became fast
15 friends. Ray was an inspiration to Ken and after his tour with the
16 United States Navy was over, Ken joined the Utah Highway Patrol
17 (UHP). Ken retired as a captain with the UHP a few years ago,
18 and he recounts that one of his prize possessions is Ray's service
19 revolver, presented to him by Pat after Ray's death; and

20 WHEREAS, On February 17, 1970, Ray Carpenter, a California
21 Highway Patrol officer and loyal servant to the State of California,
22 died after being shot by the driver of a vehicle he had stopped; and

23 WHEREAS, At the time of his death, Ray was a member of the
24 Eureka Lodge No. 16, the Auburn lodge of the Freemasons. Ray
25 reached the level of Master Mason within the lodge; and

26 WHEREAS, Ray held the rank of Commander with the VFW
27 (VFW Post 1942) and it was this post that performed funeral
28 services for Ray; and

29 WHEREAS, Ray loved motorcycles, and would often be seen
30 around town on his Suzuki, with wife Pat riding behind him; and

31 WHEREAS, Ray enjoyed outdoor life, and would often take
32 the whole family camping at Lake Valley Reservoir; and

33 WHEREAS, Ray cared for his elderly parents until the end of
34 their lives, moving them into a house nearby so that he could care
35 for them; and

36 WHEREAS, The house is still owned by his sister Pearl Burkett,
37 who describes Ray as her "protector," noting that she would not
38 be allowed to date anyone without Ray's approval. He would even
39 take her on some of his dates, just so she could have fun; and

1 WHEREAS, Ray Carpenter was a loyal servant to the State of
2 California for 13 years and seven months. He left behind his lovely
3 wife Patricia Carpenter and his daughter Mammie Carpenter. From
4 his first wife, Laurel Wibberley, he left behind five children: David
5 Allen Carpenter, Paul Raymond Carpenter, John Alvin Carpenter,
6 Debra Lynn Carpenter, and Beckey Joy Carpenter. He left behind
7 four stepchildren: Jeffrey Brian Wibberley, John Daniel Wibberley,
8 Greg Francis Wibberley, and Tommy Allen Wibberley. He also
9 left behind his sister Pearl Burkett; now, therefore, be it

10 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
11 *thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates the*
12 ~~westbound portion of Interstate Highway 80, between Rocklin~~
13 ~~Road and State Highway Route 65, in Placer County, as the Rocklin~~
14 *Road interchange on Interstate Highway 80 in Placer County as*
15 *the CHP Officer Raymond Carpenter Memorial Highway*
16 *Interchange; and be it further*

17 *Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested*
18 *to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the*
19 *signing requirements for the state highway system, showing that*
20 *special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate*
21 *sources covering that cost, to erect those signs; and be it further*

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

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