

## Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 50

### RESOLUTION CHAPTER 64

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

[Filed with Secretary of State August 4, 2010.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 50, Cox. CHP Officer Raymond Carpenter Memorial Interchange.

This measure would designate a specified interchange on Interstate Highway 80 in Placer County as the CHP Officer Raymond Carpenter Memorial 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.

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

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

WHEREAS, Ray joined the Department of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) soon after his discharge from the United States Air Force. He was initially assigned to Bakersfield. He transferred to the Truckee area office

and finally made his way to the Auburn office. Ray was soon back at home in the Auburn area patrolling the roads in his hometown. His widow Pat said that law enforcement and the CHP suited Ray perfectly, due to his great respect for authority. Ray's friend and coworker, retired officer Jim Mayhorn, relates that he and Ray were also very active in the early days of the Civil Air Patrol Squadron 60 in Auburn. Jim said that Ray was an aircraft observer and would often go up and assist with search and rescue missions in the area; and

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

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

WHEREAS, Ray is described by all who knew him as the kind of guy who would look to help another out. When he came across someone less fortunate and in need, he would easily provide the person a ride, or a burger at the local burger place, or even take the person home for a couple of days to get the person back on his or her feet; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby designates the Rocklin Road interchange on Interstate Highway 80 in Placer County as the CHP Officer Raymond Carpenter Memorial Interchange; 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 that special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering 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.