

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 83

Introduced by Senator Negrete McLeod
(Coauthor: Senator Huff)
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Torres)

March 1, 2010

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 83—Relative to the ~~Officer Russell M. Miller, Sr. Memorial Highway~~; *memorial highways*.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 83, as amended, Negrete McLeod. ~~Officer Memorial highways: Officer Russell M. Miller, Sr. Memorial Highway~~; *Highway and Correctional Officer Jesus "Jesse" Sanchez Memorial Highway*.

This measure would designate a specified section of State Highway Route 60 in Chino as the Officer Russell M. Miller, Sr. Memorial Highway *and a specified section of State Highway Route 83 in Chino as the Correctional Officer Jesus "Jesse" Sanchez Memorial Highway*. The measure would also request that the Department of Transportation determine the cost for appropriate signs showing ~~this~~ *those* special ~~designation~~ *designations* and, upon receiving donations from *each* nonstate ~~sources~~ *source* covering ~~that cost~~ *those costs, as specified*, erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 *WHEREAS, Both Officer Russell M. Miller, Sr. and Correctional*
- 2 *Officer Jesus "Jesse" Sanchez proudly served as law enforcement*
- 3 *officers in the State of California and it is appropriate to designate*
- 4 *state highway routes in the communities in which they served and*
- 5 *memorialize the sacrifices made by both officers; and*

1 WHEREAS, *We begin with* Officer Russell M. Miller, Sr., a
2 12-year veteran of the Chino Police Department, *who* died in the
3 line of duty on February 1, 2000; and

4 WHEREAS, Officer Miller was born on December 27, 1948;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Upon graduating from Magnolia High School in
7 Anaheim, California, in 1967, Officer Miller joined the United
8 States Navy, where he served six years at the height of the Vietnam
9 War; and

10 WHEREAS, After leaving the Navy, Officer Miller held a series
11 of jobs working as a welder, truck driver, and construction worker,
12 and later applied to become a police officer; and

13 WHEREAS, After completing training, Officer Miller graduated
14 from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Academy on February
15 5, 1988, and joined the Chino Police Department, later acting in
16 the capacity as a field training officer and part of the department's
17 mounted enforcement team; and

18 WHEREAS, Officer Miller was known as an officer who was
19 well-liked and respected, and a stabilizing force in his patrol unit;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, In subsequent years, Officer Miller also became
22 involved in family and community activities after his three children
23 were born; and

24 WHEREAS, Officer Miller coached Little League and assisted
25 the United States Naval Sea Cadets Corps that his son, Russell Jr.,
26 belonged to; and

27 WHEREAS, Officer Miller and his wife had also recently
28 purchased 20 acres of land in Montana and were looking forward
29 to retirement; and

30 WHEREAS, However, on February 1, 2000, Officer Miller was
31 involved in a routine traffic stop, and, while approaching the
32 stopped vehicle, was struck from behind by a second vehicle,
33 whose driver was under the influence of alcohol; and

34 WHEREAS, Tragically, Officer Miller was critically injured,
35 and was transported to a nearby trauma center where he died while
36 undergoing surgery; and

37 WHEREAS, Officer Miller was laid to rest on February 7, 2000;
38 and

39 WHEREAS, Law enforcement personnel came from throughout
40 California, and as far away as Idaho and Utah, to attend Officer

1 Miller’s funeral service at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
2 in Chino Hills, California; and

3 WHEREAS, The ceremony was punctuated by both tears and
4 laughter as Officer Miller’s colleagues recalled the man they knew,
5 recounting his immense love for his family; and his skill as a police
6 officer; and

7 WHEREAS, At the end of the funeral service, one of Officer
8 Miller’s daughters, Melissa, released a white dove in a symbolic
9 release of her father; and

10 WHEREAS, Officer Miller is survived by his wife Stephanie,
11 his daughters Melissa and Sarah, his son Russell Jr., and his
12 parents, sisters, and brother; and

13 WHEREAS, Officer Miller’s memory lives on through an annual
14 memorial 5K “Run for Russ” race, established in 2001 in Chino,
15 California, an event that brings the community together to celebrate
16 Officer Miller’s life and that forges stronger neighborhood bonds;
17 and

18 *WHEREAS, Lastly, in 1972, Correctional Officer Jesus “Jesse”*
19 *Sanchez, at 24 years of age, became a permanent correctional*
20 *officer at the California Institution for Men; and*

21 *WHEREAS, Officer Sanchez had worked his way through the*
22 *ranks for such a promotion as part of the federal government’s*
23 *new Work Incentive Program; and*

24 *WHEREAS, Previously, Officer Sanchez had graduated from*
25 *the Correctional Officers School in Soledad with good grades and*
26 *was an excellent employee; and*

27 *WHEREAS, Officer Sanchez was ambitious and always asked*
28 *what else he could do to be a better officer and colleague; and*

29 *WHEREAS, Upon receiving word of his promotion, Officer*
30 *Sanchez moved his family to Pomona, assured of his future; and*

31 *WHEREAS, Tragically and shortly thereafter, Officer Sanchez*
32 *was gunned down during an ambush while escorting a prisoner*
33 *to San Bernardino County Court, along with his partner George*
34 *F. Fitzgerald, about a mile from Euclid Avenue on Edison Street*
35 *in Chino; and*

36 *WHEREAS, Officer Sanchez was killed in the line of duty, and*
37 *was survived by his wife, Mercedes, a daughter, Beatrice, a son,*
38 *Danny, and his father, mother, and two sisters; now, therefore, be*
39 *it*

