

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 25, 2011

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 16, 2011

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 52

Introduced by Senators Vargas and La Malfa
(Coauthor: Assembly Member V. Manuel Pérez)

June 23, 2011

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 52—Relative to the Caltrans Highway Maintenance Leadworker Jaime Obeso Memorial Highway, the Caltrans Leadworker Gary Wayne Smith Memorial Highway, and the Caltrans Equipment Operator II Richard Gonzalez Memorial Highway. *Interchange.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 52, as amended, Vargas. Caltrans Highway Maintenance Leadworker Jaime Obeso Memorial Highway, Caltrans Leadworker Gary Wayne Smith Memorial Highway, and Caltrans Equipment Operator II Richard Gonzalez Memorial Highway. *Interchange.*

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 8 in the City of El Centro as the Caltrans Highway Maintenance Leadworker Jaime Obeso Memorial Highway and would designate the Sunbeam Rest Area in Jaime Obeso's honor. The bill would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 99, north of the City of Chico, as the Caltrans Leadworker Gary Wayne Smith Memorial Highway, and would designate ~~a portion of a specified interchange between State Highway Route 5 and State Highway Route 905~~ in the County of San Diego as the Caltrans Equipment Operator II Richard Gonzalez Memorial Highway. *Interchange.* The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of each of the appropriate signs showing these special designations and, upon receiving

donations from nonstate sources covering the cost ~~for~~ of a sign designation, to erect a sign.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Jaime Garcia Obeso, of the City of Imperial, passed
2 away on June 7, 2011, when he was struck by an errant motorist
3 while working on a stretch of State Highway Route 8 near the
4 Sunbeam Rest Area for the Department of Transportation
5 (Caltrans); and

6 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso was born to Gregorio and Magdalena
7 Obeso on January 25, 1958, in El Centro, California; and

8 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso attended Ben Hulse Elementary
9 School, Frank Wright Junior High School, and Imperial High
10 School. While at Imperial High School, he excelled in football and
11 track, holding records in pole vault, and 4x100 relay; and

12 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso grew up in the City of Imperial
13 gaining many friends throughout his life; and

14 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso married Maria Elena Sanchez on
15 September 1, 1978, his sweetheart since the 6th grade when they
16 met. Jaime and Maria Elena were best friends and the loves of
17 each other's lives. They were happily married 32 years this year;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso worked for H.E. Wiggins and Sons
20 for many years and later gained employment with Caltrans. He
21 was known as a hard working employee and he received many
22 awards during his service with Caltrans. His last promotion was
23 as a Caltrans Highway Maintenance Leadworker with the El Centro
24 Travelway Crew; and

25 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso was well known in the community
26 and was always there to help his friends and family; and

27 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso's hobbies included working on air
28 conditioners, his new jeep, fishing, finding a deal at the swap meet,
29 browsing eBay for the latest deals, and spending time with his
30 grandchildren and family; and

31 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso loved his family and grandchildren
32 very much. He will be remembered for making breakfast for his
33 grandchildren every Sunday morning and for being quick to aid
34 his friends and family whenever they needed him; and

35 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso had a great sense of humor. He was
36 always joking and teasing his friends and family; and

1 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso was preceded in death by his father,
2 Gregorio Daniel Obeso; and

3 WHEREAS, Jaime Obeso is survived by the love of his life of
4 32 years, Maria Elena Sanchez Obeso of Imperial, CA; daughter,
5 Ida Obeso; son Jaime Obeso Jr. and his wife, Priscilla Escalanti
6 Obeso; grandchildren, Gianna Alyssa Navarro, Ricardo “Richie”
7 Antonio Navarro, Jaime Gregorio Obeso, Nicholas Edward
8 Navarro, Audrina Kyana Obeso, and to be born in August, Julian
9 Albert Obeso; mother, Magdalena Obeso; brothers and sisters,
10 David Obeso, Arturo Obeso, Carmen Obeso-Garcia, Daniel Obeso,
11 and Gloria Obeso-Levy; and sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, and
12 numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and loved ones; and

13 WHEREAS, Even though Jaime Obeso is no longer with us, he
14 will be watching over us every day and will always be remembered
15 in our memories and hearts; and

16 WHEREAS, Gary Wayne Smith began working for Caltrans
17 on May 16, 1978, and spent the majority of his career at the Chico
18 Maintenance Station; and

19 WHEREAS, On November 14, 2010, Gary Wayne Smith was
20 struck and killed by a vehicle while performing traffic control at
21 the scene of a fatal accident on State Highway Route 99 north of
22 the City of Chico; and

23 WHEREAS, Gary Wayne Smith was known as a kind-natured
24 individual who was never without a smile and who helped many
25 coworkers on the job; and

26 WHEREAS, Gary Wayne Smith never hesitated to help or
27 respond to callouts regardless of the time or day; and

28 WHEREAS, Gary Wayne Smith had great pride regarding his
29 service to the State of California; and

30 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to dedicate a portion of State
31 Highway Route 99 in honor of Gary Wayne Smith; and

32 WHEREAS, Caltrans Equipment Operator II Richard Gonzalez
33 was a dedicated maintenance worker; and

34 WHEREAS, Richard Gonzalez, while working on a special
35 programs crew at the connector of State Highway Route 15 and
36 State Highway Route 94, was struck on the morning of June 20,
37 2011, and died in the line of duty at the age of 52 as a result of
38 injuries sustained in the collision; and

39 WHEREAS, Richard Gonzalez was an exemplary employee
40 who gained the respect of supervisors, management, and peers for

1 his devotion to the values of integrity, commitment, and teamwork;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Richard Gonzalez's passion was restoration of
4 classic cars and serving as a mentor and role model to his family
5 and friends; and

6 WHEREAS, Richard Gonzalez, at the time of his death, was
7 survived by his wife, Ruth, and his two sons, Ron and Erik; and

8 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to dedicate ~~a portion of State~~
9 ~~Highway Route 5~~ *the interchange between State Highway Route*
10 *5 and State Highway Route 905* in the County of San Diego in
11 honor of Richard Gonzalez because he made the ultimate sacrifice
12 in his service to the people of the State of California; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
15 *thereof concurring*, That in honor of the commitment of Jaime
16 Obeso, who died in the line of duty, the Legislature hereby
17 designates the one-fourth mile before the Sunbeam Rest Area and
18 the one-fourth mile after the Sunbeam Rest Area six miles west
19 of El Centro on State Highway Route 8 as the Caltrans Highway
20 Maintenance Leadworker Jaime Obeso Memorial Highway; and
21 be it further

22 *Resolved*, That the Legislature also hereby designates the
23 Sunbeam Rest Area as the Jaime Obeso Sunbeam Rest Area; and
24 be it further

25 *Resolved*, That the Legislature hereby recognizes the
26 contributions and sacrifice made by Gary Wayne Smith to the
27 people of the State of California and designates the portion of State
28 Highway Route 99 from ~~Garner Lane~~ *one mile north of its*
29 *intersection with Wilson Landing Road* to Broyles Road, north of
30 the City of Chico, as the Caltrans Leadworker Gary Wayne Smith
31 Memorial Highway; and be it further

32 *Resolved*, That the Legislature hereby recognizes the
33 contributions and sacrifice made by Robert Gonzalez to the people
34 of the State of California and designates ~~the portion of State~~
35 ~~Highway Route 5 between Dairy Mart Road~~ *the interchange*
36 *between State Highway Route 5 and State Highway Route 905* in
37 the County of San Diego as the Caltrans Equipment Operator II
38 Richard Gonzalez Memorial ~~Highway~~ *Interchange*; and be it
39 further

1 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
2 to determine the cost of each of the appropriate signs, consistent
3 with the signing requirements for the state highway system,
4 showing these special designations and, upon receiving donations
5 from nonstate sources covering the cost of a sign designation, to
6 erect a sign; and be it further

7 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
8 this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
9 authors for appropriate distribution.