

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 34**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Roger Hernández**

December 3, 2012

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An act to add Section 5029.6 to the Public Resources Code, relating to historical resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 34, as introduced, Roger Hernández. State historical landmark: Nuestra Señora Reina de La Paz Land: Cesar Chavez

Existing law establishes the State Historical Resources Commission and the California Register of Historical Resources. Existing law requires the Department of Parks and Recreation to consider all recommendations for registration made by the commission, and requires the department to register, as state historical landmarks, those buildings, structures, sites, or places that the department deems to be important historical resources.

This bill would require the land known as Nuestra Señora Reina de La Paz, which includes the home and burial site of the late Cesar Chavez, to be registered in the California Register of Historical Resources as a state historical landmark.

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:

3 (a) The state park system was created for the purposes of  
4 preserving outstanding natural and scenic sites of cultural value  
5 and areas of historical significance.

6 (b) Nuestra Señora Reina de La Paz, or La Paz, the farm where  
7 the late Cesar Chavez lived, was recently named by President  
8 Obama as a national monument. This designation brings to the  
9 forefront the deep national significance of the land.

10 (c) La Paz, located in Kern County, is a historic and culturally  
11 significant land that contains both the house in which the late Cesar  
12 Chavez once lived and his burial site.

13 (d) Kern County is home to the origins of the farmworker  
14 movement and contains several sites associated with the movement,  
15 including La Paz and the land known as the Forty Acres.

16 (e) Currently, the Office of Historic Preservation does not have  
17 these two sites, or any other site located in Kern County associated  
18 with the farmworker movement, listed as a state historical  
19 landmark.

20 (f) Further, there is a general deficit of sites and resources listed  
21 in the California’s Register of Historical Resources that are  
22 associated with California modern day history and civil rights.

23 SEC. 2. Section 5029.6 is added to the Public Resources Code,  
24 to read:

25 5029.6. Notwithstanding Section 5021, the land known as  
26 Nuestra Señora Reina de La Paz, which includes the home and  
27 burial site of the late Cesar Chavez, shall be registered in the  
28 California Register as a state historical landmark.

29 SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that a special law  
30 is necessary and that a general law cannot be made applicable  
31 within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California  
32 Constitution because of the necessity to ensure in perpetuity the  
33 unique historical, cultural, and recreational significance of Nuestra  
34 Señora Reina de La Paz in Kern County.

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