

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 5, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 34

Introduced by Assembly Member Roger Hernández

December 3, 2012

An act to *amend Section 5024.6 of, and to add Section 5029.6 to, the Public Resources Code, relating to historical resources.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

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

Existing law establishes the State Historical Resources Commission and the California Register of Historical Resources (*California Register*). 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.

Existing law authorizes a resource to be nominated for listing as a historical resource in the California Register in accordance with specified nominating procedures. Existing law establishes the State Office of Historic Preservation and requires the office to perform certain duties, including recommending properties of historical significance for nomination by the commission for, among other things, listing in the California Register.

This bill would require the office to educate the public on the process required to nominate a resource for listing in the California Register, as provided. The bill would also require the office, by January 1, 2015,

to identify at least 5 resources for potential inclusion in the California Register that are associated with the labor and civil rights movements and California’s modern history, and recommend to the commission that these resources be nominated for inclusion in the California Register.

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 *value* 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 5024.6 of the Public Resources Code is
24 amended to read:

1 5024.6. There is in the department the State Office of Historic
2 Preservation, which is under the direction of the officer. The office
3 shall do all of the following:

4 (a) Serve as the staff of the commission in carrying out its
5 responsibilities, and as the staff of the officer in carrying out the
6 responsibilities of that position.

7 (b) Recommend properties of historical significance for
8 nomination by the commission for the National Register of Historic
9 Places, for registration as historical landmarks and points of
10 historical interest, and for listing in the California Register.

11 (c) Administer state and federal incentive programs for the
12 preservation of historical resources, including the California
13 Register.

14 (d) Provide information on federal and state benefits for
15 preservation projects and enhancement of historical resources.

16 (e) Administer grant and loan programs to survey historical
17 resources and assist the development and enhancement of these
18 resources.

19 (f) Assist other state agencies by providing information and
20 education on the economic and social benefits of utilizing historical
21 resources.

22 (g) Provide public education and information on the preservation
23 and enhancement of historical resources.

24 (h) Provide information and technical assistance to local, state,
25 and national organizations to promote preservation and
26 enhancement of historical resources by developing model
27 ordinances, financial mechanisms, educational programs,
28 conferences, workshops, and other materials.

29 (i) Cooperate with cultural and ethnic commissions, such as the
30 Native American Heritage Commission, or other organizations or
31 representatives when projects involve these groups' concerns.

32 (j) Review and comment on the impact on historical resources
33 of publicly funded projects and programs undertaken by other
34 governmental agencies.

35 (k) Review applications for excavation and salvage permits for
36 salvage in state waters.

37 (l) Assist the State Lands Commission in administering Section
38 6313.

39 (m) Administer the California Register in accordance with
40 procedures adopted by the commission.

1 (n) Administer and maintain the State Historic Resources
2 Inventory in accordance with procedures developed by the office
3 and adopted by the commission.

4 (o) Administer the California Heritage Fund created pursuant
5 to Section 5079.10.

6 (p) *Educate the public on the process required to nominate a*
7 *resource for listing as a historical resource in the California*
8 *Register pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 5024.1, with*
9 *particular emphasis on educating the public regarding nominating*
10 *resources associated with the labor movement, the civil rights*
11 *movement, and the state’s modern history.*

12 (q) *By January 1, 2015, identify at least five resources for*
13 *potential inclusion in the California Register that are associated*
14 *with the labor movement, the civil rights movement, and the state’s*
15 *modern history, and recommend to the commission that these*
16 *resources be nominated for inclusion as a historical resource in*
17 *the California Register.*

18 ~~SEC. 2.~~

19 SEC. 3. Section 5029.6 is added to the Public Resources Code,
20 to read:

21 5029.6. Notwithstanding Section 5021, the land known as
22 Nuestra Señora Reina de La Paz, which includes the home and
23 burial site of the late Cesar Chavez, shall be registered in the
24 California Register as a state historical landmark.

25 ~~SEC. 3.~~

26 SEC. 4. The Legislature finds and declares that a special law
27 is necessary and that a general law cannot be made applicable
28 within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California
29 Constitution because of the necessity to ensure in perpetuity the
30 unique historical, cultural, and recreational significance of Nuestra
31 Señora Reina de La Paz in Kern County.