

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 55

Introduced by Assembly Members Stone and Alejo

April 30, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 55—Relative to the Ohlone Costanoan Esselen Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 55, as introduced, Stone. Ohlone Costanoan Esselen Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 68, in the County of Monterey, as the Ohlone Costanoan Esselen Highway. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, The Esselen people have been indigenous to the
2 Greater Monterey County area for more than 10,000 years and
3 from their known ancestral tribal villages from the coast and inland,
4 the Esselen people hunted, traded, and lived peacefully together,
5 and are known today as the Ohlone Costanoan Esselen Nation;
6 and
7 WHEREAS, The Esselen people lived from Big Sur on the
8 Pacific Coast to the Pajaro River to Fremont Peak to Salinas and
9 the Pinnacles caves, across the fertile valley to Arroyo Seco, up
10 to Monterey, Carmel, and back to Big Sur, where they built a
11 vibrant, healthy, and culturally rich society; and

1 WHEREAS, For generations, their ancestors maintained strong
2 family and kinship ties through tribal and family gatherings,
3 weddings, baptisms, funerals, and other family events. Their
4 cultural ties have bound their tribe and families for generation after
5 generation; and

6 WHEREAS, Since the arrival of Europeans, California Indians
7 have endured a long and well-documented history of change forced
8 by assimilation and discrimination; and

9 WHEREAS, The Esselen people were forced from their ancestral
10 lands and into starvation and illness; to survive they hid in local
11 mountains and canyons known today as Palo Colorado, Ventana
12 Wilderness, Arroyo Seco, Tassajara, Pinnacles, Chualar Canyon,
13 Prunedale Canyon, Corral de Tierra, Fort Ord, Santa Lucia, and
14 El Portero; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1883, the Esselen people were formally
16 recognized by Special Agents Helen Hunt Jackson and Abbott
17 Kinney of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and in 1906 were placed
18 under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington,
19 D.C., and became known as the Monterey Band of Monterey
20 County specifically identifying Tom Santos Miranda and his
21 family; and

22 WHEREAS, Frequent communication was vital to tribal society.
23 Esselen ancestors developed roads by following deer trails and
24 creek beds from coastal villages to inland villages and families
25 and their most used route is known today as State Highway Route
26 68; and

27 WHEREAS; State Highway Route 68 was later used by
28 Spaniards, Padre Junipero Serra, the Juan DeAnza Expedition, Los
29 Californios, and most recently by tourists traveling from mission
30 to mission, or to the Pebble Beach Golf Course, the racetrack
31 located at Laguna Seca, and Fort Ord; now, therefore, be it

32 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
33 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby designates that
34 portion of State Highway Route 68 between Blanco Road in the
35 City of Salinas and Anza Drive in the County of Monterey as the
36 Ohlone Costanoan Esselen Highway; and be it further

37 *Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is requested
38 to determine the cost of erecting the appropriate signs, consistent
39 with the signing requirements for the state highway system,
40 showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations

- 1 from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs; and
- 2 be it further
- 3 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 4 of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
- 5 for appropriate distribution.

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