

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 65

Introduced by Assembly Member Hall
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bonta, Brown, Holden,
Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Mitchell, Ting, and Weber)
(Coauthors: Senators Price and Wright)

June 12, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 65—Relative to the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 65, as introduced, Hall. The Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge.

This measure would name the western span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for erecting 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, Willie L. Brown, Jr. was born on March 20, 1934,
2 in Mineola, Texas, and was the son of Minnie Collins Boyd and
3 Willie Lewis Brown, Sr. and grandson of Anna Collins. He married
4 the former Blanche Vitero in September 1957. He is the father of
5 four children: Susan Elizabeth Brown, Robin Elaine Brown-Friedel,
6 Michael Elliot Brown, and Sydney Minetta Brown; and
7 WHEREAS, Mr. Brown received a bachelor of arts degree from
8 San Francisco State University in 1955 and a juris doctor from the
9 University of California, Hastings College of Law, in 1958. He

1 was admitted to the practice of law in the State of California and
2 to the federal court, including the United States Supreme Court;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Brown was first elected in 1964 and served in
5 all of the following capacities: as a Member of the California State
6 Assembly from 1965 to 1995, as Speaker of the California State
7 Assembly as the longest serving Speaker in California history,
8 from 1980 to 1995, and the first African American; and two terms
9 as the 41st Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, from
10 January 8, 1996, to January 8, 2004; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Brown served as the Chair of the Assembly
12 Ways and Means Committee and the Chair of the Assembly
13 Revenue and Taxation Committee; served on the Board of Trustees
14 of the California State University system and as a Regent of the
15 University of California; and served on the Board of Administration
16 of the California Public Employees' Retirement System; and

17 WHEREAS, As mayor of California's most cosmopolitan city,
18 he refurbished and rebuilt one of the nation's busiest transit
19 systems, pioneered the use of bond measures to build affordable
20 housing, created a model juvenile justice system, and paved the
21 way for creating the expansion campus of the University of
22 California, San Francisco, to serve as the anchor of a new
23 development that would position the city as a center for the
24 burgeoning field of biotechnology; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Brown is widely regarded as one of the most
26 influential politicians of the late 20th century, and has been at the
27 center of California politics, government, and civic life for an
28 astonishing four decades; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. Brown's career spans the American presidency
30 from Lyndon Johnson to Barack Obama, and he has worked with
31 every California Governor from Edmund Gerald "Pat" Brown, Sr.,
32 to Edmund Gerald "Jerry" Brown, Jr., and has left his imprimatur
33 on every aspect of politics and public policy in the Golden State,
34 including civil rights, education reform, tax policy, economic
35 development, health care, international trade, domestic
36 partnerships, and affirmative action; and

37 WHEREAS, Today, Mr. Brown heads the Willie L. Brown, Jr.
38 Institute on Politics and Public Service, where he shares his vast
39 political knowledge and skills with a new generation of California
40 leaders; now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
2 *thereof concurring,* That the California Legislature takes great
3 pride in recognizing Willie L. Brown, Jr. for all of his political,
4 professional, and personal accomplishments by naming the western
5 span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge the Willie L.
6 Brown, Jr. Bridge to honor and commemorate his many
7 contributions to California; and be it further

8 *Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is requested
9 to determine the cost of erecting the appropriate signs, consistent
10 with the signing requirements for the state highway system,
11 showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations
12 from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs; and
13 be it further

14 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
15 of this resolution to the Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly,
16 the President pro Tempore of the Senate, the California Legislative
17 Black Caucus, the Director of Transportation, and the author for
18 appropriate distribution.