

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 22, 2013

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 64

Introduced by Senator Roth

August 12, 2013

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 64—Relative to the Sergeant Gilbert ~~Cortez, Sr.~~ *Cortez* and K-9 Mattie Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 64, as amended, Roth. Sergeant Gilbert ~~Cortez, Sr.~~ *Cortez* and K-9 Mattie Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 15 in the County of Riverside as the Sergeant Gilbert ~~Cortez, Sr.~~ *Cortez* and K-9 Mattie Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering the cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Gilbert ~~Cortez, Sr.~~ *Cortez* was born on October 4,
- 2 1966; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Mr. Cortez was raised in the City of Norco and
- 4 attended Norco High School, where he played baseball; and
- 5 WHEREAS, On September 17, 1990, Mr. Cortez began his
- 6 career with the California Department of Corrections and
- 7 Rehabilitation; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Mr. Cortez was first assigned to the California
- 9 Institution for Men in Chino and then transferred to Calipatria
- 10 State Prison on October 29, 1992, where he became part of the
- 11 Investigative Services Unit; and

1 WHEREAS, While at Calipatria State Prison, Mr. Cortez was
2 promoted to the rank of ~~Sergeant~~; *sergeant*; and

3 WHEREAS, Sergeant Cortez then transferred to the California
4 Rehabilitation Center on October 29, 2001, to return to his
5 hometown of Norco; and

6 WHEREAS, Sergeant Cortez held various positions at the
7 California Rehabilitation Center and was able to join the
8 Investigative Services Unit once again as an investigator; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2011, Sergeant Cortez became a part of the
10 Southern Regional K-9 Unit, partnering with K-9 Mattie, who was
11 certified to search for contraband and narcotics; and

12 WHEREAS, K-9 Mattie was a Belgian Malinois who was
13 donated by a private citizen in the San Diego area; and

14 WHEREAS, Sergeant Cortez, at the age of 46, and K-9 Mattie
15 were killed in an automobile accident on State Highway Route 79
16 near San Felipe Road in the County of San Diego on March 25,
17 2013; and

18 WHEREAS, K-9 Mattie died at the scene of the accident, while
19 Sergeant Cortez succumbed to his injuries at a local fire station
20 before an emergency services helicopter could transport him to a
21 trauma center; and

22 WHEREAS, At the time of the accident, Sergeant Cortez was
23 part of a convoy of state corrections K-9 officers that was en route
24 to inspect the La Cima Conservation Fire Camp, an inmate-staffed
25 firefighting outpost in a rural part of the County of San Diego; and

26 WHEREAS, Sergeant Cortez was well loved and respected in
27 the Eastvale and Norco communities; and

28 WHEREAS, Sergeant Cortez is survived by his wife, two
29 children, and parents; now, therefore, be it

30 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
31 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
32 portion of State Highway Route 15 from Second Street in Norco
33 to Limonite Avenue in Eastvale as the Sergeant Gilbert ~~Cortez~~,
34 ~~Sr.~~ Cortez and K-9 Mattie Memorial Highway; and be it further

35 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
36 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the
37 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this
38 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
39 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
40 further

1 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
2 this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
3 for appropriate distribution.

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