

Introduced by Senator Lara

(Coauthors: Senators Block, Corbett, Correa, De León, Hancock, Hernandez, Hueso, Liu, Mitchell, Padilla, Pavley, Steinberg, and Torres)

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April 21, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 115—Relative to the Senator Jenny Oropeza Memorial Freeway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 115, as introduced, Lara. Senator Jenny Oropeza Memorial Freeway.

This measure would designate the portion of State Highway Route 710 that runs between Pico Avenue and West Wardlow Road in the City of Long Beach as the Senator Jenny Oropeza Memorial Freeway. 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 that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Jenny Oropeza, who passed away on October 20,
2 2010, was a lifelong public servant who was active in her
3 community and was first elected to the Long Beach Unified School
4 District Board of Education, then the Long Beach City Council,
5 the Assembly of the State of California, and finally to the Senate
6 of the State of California; and

1 WHEREAS, During her time as a Member of the Legislature,
2 Jenny Oropeza was a champion for public transportation, health
3 care, education, clean air, equality, and the prevention of cancer;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Oropeza was so admired by her
6 constituents and community that she was posthumously awarded
7 the Political Leadership Award in 2011 by the Democratic
8 Women’s Study Club in Long Beach, which has renamed that
9 award the Jenny Oropeza Political Leadership Award; and

10 WHEREAS, The Long Beach Community Hispanic Association
11 (Centro CHA) posthumously awarded Senator Oropeza the Create
12 Change Community Service Excellence Award in 2011, which
13 will in future years be called the Create Change: Jenny Oropeza
14 Community Service Excellence Award; and

15 WHEREAS, In recognition of Senator Oropeza, the Long Beach
16 Lambda Democratic Club created the Jenny Oropeza Ally of the
17 Year Award, which was first awarded in 2011; and

18 WHEREAS, As a tribute to Senator Oropeza’s dedication to
19 fostering protections for key state public health programs, the Los
20 Angeles County Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, in joint
21 collaboration with the six other California-based Komen affiliates,
22 known as “the California Collaborative,” established the Senator
23 Jenny Oropeza Public Policy Internship position; and

24 WHEREAS, The City of Long Beach named the community
25 center in Cesar E. Chavez Park the Jenny Oropeza Community
26 Center and the Los Angeles Unified School District dedicated the
27 Jenny Oropeza Global Studies Academy at the Rancho Dominguez
28 Preparatory School; and

29 WHEREAS, Shortly after taking office in 2000, then Assembly
30 Member Oropeza became aware that the Alameda Corridor would
31 open in 2002 and that all the planned bridges, designed to prevent
32 cars from having to wait for trains to pass at street level, would be
33 completed, except for the bridge on State Highway Route 1 (Pacific
34 Coast Highway) in the community of Wilmington, which was the
35 busiest route along the Alameda Corridor; and

36 WHEREAS, The bridge to be built at that location would bisect
37 the Equilon Refinery and was therefore the most complicated and
38 expensive bridge to build, and there was not enough funding to
39 complete the on State Highway Route 1 bridge; and

1 WHEREAS, Senator Oropeza brought together the interested
2 parties, including the Department of Transportation, the Alameda
3 Corridor Transportation Authority, the Los Angeles County
4 Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), the Equilon
5 Refinery, the Union Pacific Railroad, and the City of Los Angeles
6 to solve this problem of completing the bridge and was able to
7 help facilitate \$107 million in funding from a combination of
8 sources that included state transportation funds, state Proposition
9 116 bond funds, federal demonstration funds, LACMTA funds,
10 and railroad funds; now, therefore, be it

11 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
12 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
13 portion of State Highway Route 710 that runs between Pico Avenue
14 and West Wardlow Road in the City of Long Beach as the Senator
15 Jenny Oropeza Memorial Freeway; and be it further

16 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
17 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the
18 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this
19 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
20 sources sufficient to cover that cost, to erect those signs; and be it
21 further

22 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
23 this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
24 for appropriate distribution.