

**Introduced by Senator Morrell**

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Nestande)

**(Coauthors: Senators Anderson and Roth)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Brown, Donnelly, Linder, Medina,  
Melendez, and Rodriguez)

August 18, 2014

---

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 141—Relative to the CAL FIRE Firefighter Christopher Lee Douglas Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 141, as introduced, Morrell. CAL FIRE Firefighter Christopher Lee Douglas Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a 5-mile portion of Interstate 10 as the CAL FIRE Firefighter Christopher Lee Douglas Memorial Highway. The measure would also 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: no.

1 WHEREAS, California Department of Forestry and Fire  
2 Protection (CAL FIRE) Firefighter Christopher Lee Douglas passed  
3 away in the line of duty on July 5, 2013, at the age of 41, while  
4 responding to a traffic accident in Riverside County; and

5 WHEREAS, Firefighter Douglas was born in Colorado Springs,  
6 Colorado and attended Widefield High School. He later attended  
7 Palomar College in Vista, California, graduating at the top of his  
8 class and earning his paramedic license; and

1 WHEREAS, Firefighter Douglas was an 11-year veteran of the  
2 United States Air Force, enlisting in 1992. While stationed at  
3 Vandenberg Air Force Base, he earned the rank of Staff Sergeant,  
4 attended Airman Leadership School, and was a Missile and Space  
5 Systems Maintenance Apprentice. During his Air Force career, he  
6 earned the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Air Force  
7 Commendation Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Award  
8 with 1 device, the Air Force Training Ribbon, and the National  
9 Defense Service Medal; and

10 WHEREAS, Firefighter Douglas had a passion for firefighting,  
11 beginning his career as a volunteer firefighter paramedic in 1999.  
12 At his graduation ceremony from the Company Officer's Academy,  
13 he received the Carpe Diem Award for leadership. In 2004,  
14 Firefighter Douglas began his career with CAL FIRE at La Quinta  
15 Fire Station #32 as a Firefighter II/Paramedic and was promoted  
16 to Fire Apparatus Engineer/Paramedic on June 4, 2013; and

17 WHEREAS, In his spare time, Firefighter Douglas enjoyed  
18 surfing, playing the guitar, cooking, working on cars, traveling,  
19 and spending time with his friends. Above all else, he valued  
20 spending time with his family; and

21 WHEREAS, On July 5, 2013, Firefighter Douglas was leaving  
22 the scene of a medical emergency when his fire engine was  
23 dispatched to another call, a traffic accident. While preparing to  
24 respond to the traffic accident, Firefighter Douglas was struck by  
25 a pickup truck while he was along the side of his fire engine, and  
26 succumbed to his injuries a few hours later; and

27 WHEREAS, Firefighter Douglas is survived by his mother,  
28 Rose Porter, sister, Heather Douglas, brother, Martin Douglas, and  
29 his parents-in-law, Ronald and Sheryl Aitken; and his loving wife,  
30 Amy, and their three-year-old son, Samuel, and four-month-old  
31 daughter, Bridget; and

32 WHEREAS, Firefighter Douglas exemplified the  
33 professionalism, work ethic, and dedication for which CAL FIRE  
34 firefighters are known. He touched the lives of many, is truly  
35 missed by all who knew him, and will never be forgotten; now,  
36 therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
38 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature recognizes the  
39 contributions of CAL FIRE Firefighter Christopher Lee Douglas  
40 to the people of California and hereby designates the 5-mile portion

1 of Interstate 10 from the 22nd Street undercrossing to the Malki  
2 Road undercrossing in Banning, California, as the CAL FIRE  
3 Firefighter Christopher Lee Douglas Memorial Highway; and be  
4 it further

5 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested  
6 to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the  
7 signing requirements for the state highway system, showing this  
8 special designation and, upon receiving donations from non-state  
9 sources sufficient to cover cost, to erect those signs; and be it  
10 further

11 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
12 this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author  
13 for appropriate distribution.

O