

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 12, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 1

Introduced by Assembly Member Levine

December 1, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 1—Relative to the Robin Williams Tunnel.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 1, as amended, Levine. Robin Williams Tunnel.

This measure would designate the ~~tunnel~~ *Waldo Tunnel* on State Highway ~~Routes 1 and~~ *Route 101* at ~~between~~ *between* postmile ~~89~~ *0.885* and *postmile 1.074* in the County of Marin as the Robin Williams Tunnel. 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, Robin McLaurin Williams was born in Chicago,
2 Illinois, on July 21, 1951, to his mother Laurie McLaurin and father
3 Robert Fitzgerald Williams. At 16 years of age Robin Williams
4 moved with his family to Tiburon, California; and

5 WHEREAS, Robin Williams attended Redwood High School
6 in Larkspur, California, and studied theater at the College of Marin
7 in Kentfield, California. Robin Williams received a full scholarship
8 to the Juilliard School in New York City where he pursued his gift
9 as an actor and comedian; and

1 WHEREAS, Robin Williams began his career as a comedian
2 doing stand-up comedy shows in the San Francisco Bay area and
3 continued his work in Los Angeles where he developed his
4 improvisational style as an actor and a stand-up comedian; and

5 WHEREAS, Robin Williams then appeared on several television
6 programs and starred in “Mork and Mindy” in the late 1970s to
7 early 1980s. Many successful film roles followed, including his
8 role as radio disc jockey Adrian Cronauer in “Good Morning,
9 Vietnam” in 1987, and teacher John Keating in “Dead Poets
10 Society” in 1989. Both roles earned him lead actor Academy
11 Award recognition; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1997, Robin Williams was voted funniest man
13 alive by *Entertainment Weekly*. The next year, in 1998,
14 *Entertainment Weekly* listed him as one of the 25 Best Actors of
15 all time. In 2003, he won the Grammy Award for Best Comedy
16 Album; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2005, Robin Williams received the Cecil B.
18 DeMille Award at the Golden Globe Awards. He dedicated that
19 lifetime achievement award to the memory of his good friend,
20 fellow actor, and roommate at Juilliard, Christopher Reeve; and

21 WHEREAS, Along with his talent to make people laugh, Robin
22 Williams raised funds for various causes. Robin Williams’ charity
23 work included health care, human rights, education, environmental
24 protection, the arts, and much more. In 2010, he gave 100 percent
25 of the proceeds from his shows in New Zealand to victims of the
26 devastating earthquake in Christchurch; and

27 WHEREAS, Robin Williams supported the following
28 foundations and their work: Aid Still Required, American
29 Foundation for AIDS Research, Amnesty International, Andre
30 Agassi Foundation for Education, Augie’s Quest, Bob Woodruff
31 Foundation, Celebrity Fight Night Foundation, Christopher &
32 Dana Reeve Foundation, Comic Relief, David Foster Foundation,
33 Doctors Without Borders, Dogs Deserve Better, Dream Foundation,
34 Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, International Medical
35 Corps, Keep Memory Alive, LIVESTRONG, Love Our Children
36 USA, Luke Neuhedel Foundation, Muhammad Ali Parkinson
37 Center, MusiCares, Prince’s Rainforests Project, Prince’s Trust,
38 Robert F. Kennedy Memorial, Smile Train, St. Jude Children’s
39 Research Hospital, and UNICEF; and

1 WHEREAS, One of Robin Williams' strongest affiliations with
2 philanthropy was working with Comic Relief, a nonprofit
3 organization with a mission to raise money for housing, health
4 care, and the homeless. Robin Williams would help by hosting
5 events and shows and performing to help raise funds; and

6 WHEREAS, Robin Williams also was an active volunteer
7 through the United Service Organizations where he went on *at a*
8 total of six tours and visited about 89,000 troops in 12 countries,
9 including Iraq and Afghanistan. Regardless of the challenging
10 circumstances, comedian Robin Williams made troops in conflict
11 zones smile and laugh. Robin Williams also listened to their
12 personal experiences; and

13 WHEREAS, He also funded the Robin Williams Scholarship
14 at his alma mater, the Juilliard School in New York City. Each
15 year Robin Williams provided a scholarship to cover the tuition
16 cost for one theater student; and

17 WHEREAS, Robin Williams was a ~~local~~ friend to the North
18 Bay community of the San Francisco Bay area. He would often
19 drop in unannounced at comedy nights at the 142 Throckmorton
20 Theatre in Mill Valley. There he would encourage young, budding
21 comedians. He did so with kindness and humility and many
22 comedians aspired to perform with the same level of wit and insight
23 as Robin Williams; and

24 WHEREAS, Robin Williams died on August 11, 2014, in his
25 home in Paradise Cay, Tiburon, California, as a result of suicide.
26 Though he bravely battled addiction and mental illness, his death
27 was a consequence of those diseases; and

28 WHEREAS, Robin Williams will be remembered for making
29 us laugh and for his generosity to others. It is altogether fitting to
30 officially name what is commonly known as the Waldo Tunnel
31 after Robin Williams; now, therefore, be it

32 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
33 *thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates the*
34 ~~tunnel~~ *Waldo Tunnel (#27-40) on State Highway Routes 1 and*
35 *Route 101, located at between postmile 0.885 and postmile*
36 *1.074 in the County of Marin, as the Robin Williams Tunnel; and*
37 *be it further*

38 *Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested*
39 *to determine the cost of erecting the appropriate signs, consistent*
40 *with the signing requirements for the state highway system,*

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

O