

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 54

Introduced by Assembly Member Wood
(Principal coauthor: Senator McGuire)

April 9, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 54—Relative to the Kevin R. Ebbert SO1 Navy SEAL Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 54, as introduced, Wood. Kevin R. Ebbert SO1 Navy SEAL Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of Highway 101 in the County of Humboldt near the City of Arcata as the Kevin R. Ebbert SO1 Navy SEAL Memorial Highway. 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, Kevin R. Ebbert was born on January 23, 1980,
2 grew up in Arcata, California, and graduated from Arcata High
3 School. He enjoyed the outdoors, including backpacking, rafting,
4 and later Ultimate Frisbee. He also had a passion for music and
5 reading. Kevin graduated from the University of California, Santa
6 Cruz, with a bachelor's degree in music, receiving honors in
7 musical composition; and
8 WHEREAS, Kevin was a dedicated student of life and was
9 known for researching a topic thoroughly. He was always true to
10 his word and lived by his values without imposing them on others.

1 Kevin was known as a gentle soul who was tough as nails, but
2 who grew into a caring man who lived by his ideals and was
3 committed to helping others; and

4 WHEREAS, Kevin later became an active duty Navy SEAL
5 and corpsman. He hoped to build on his training as a corpsman to
6 pursue a career as a physician. On December 31, 2011, Kevin
7 married Ursula (Jansson) Ebbert, also from Arcata, California.
8 The couple shared a love of the outdoors, had recently purchased
9 their first home, and enjoyed many family gatherings; and

10 WHEREAS, While leading his element on Saturday, November
11 24, 2012, in support of stability operations in Uruzgan Province,
12 Afghanistan, a mountainous area in the center of the country,
13 Kevin's team was ambushed from above. Kevin left the security
14 of cover to radio for air support. In doing so he was killed by a
15 sniper. Kevin's actions allowed ground and air personnel to support
16 and retrieve the remaining team members with no other loss of
17 life; and

18 WHEREAS, Kevin was a member of Naval Special Warfare
19 Unit Group 2, on his second deployment to Afghanistan, and was
20 six weeks from returning to the United States. He had been
21 accepted at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, where
22 he was to finish his training as a corpsman and become a physician.
23 During his first deployment, he held medical clinics for Afghan
24 villagers and found that work to be very rewarding. During this
25 last deployment, Kevin spent his off-duty time on base serving in
26 the medical center alongside doctors and surgeons. He had also
27 reached out to Rotary International and Doctors Without Borders
28 for opportunities to serve in clinics abroad; and

29 WHEREAS, Kevin was highly decorated by the United States
30 Navy. He received all of the following awards: two Bronze Stars
31 with "V" Device, the Purple Heart, the Navy Commendation
32 Medal, the Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy
33 Achievement Medal, the Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the
34 Combat Action Ribbon, two Good Conduct Medals, the National
35 Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the
36 Global War on Terror Service Medal, two Sea Service Deployment
37 Ribbons, the NATO ISAF Medal, the Expert Rifle Marksmanship
38 Medal, and the Expert Pistol Marksmanship Medal; and

39 WHEREAS, A memorial service was held to honor Kevin's life
40 on Sunday, December 9, 2012, at Humboldt State University in

1 Arcata, California. Kevin is survived by his wife, Ursula Ebbert,
2 his mother Charlie Jordan and sister Samantha Ebbert Martinez,
3 as well as stepsisters Amy Funk and Kate Renner, stepfather Mark
4 Ritz, mother-in-law Susan Jansson, father-in-law Erik Jansson,
5 and grandfathers Richard Ebbert and James Jordan. Kevin was a
6 second generation Navy SEAL, following in the footsteps of his
7 father Jeffrey Ebbert (deceased) and his uncle James Ebbert; and

8 WHEREAS, Designating a portion of Highway 101 in the
9 County of Humboldt with memorial signs for Special Warfare
10 Operator 1st Class Kevin R. Ebbert as the Kevin R. Ebbert SO1
11 Navy SEAL Memorial Highway would be appropriate for a local
12 American hero; now, therefore, be it

13 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
14 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates that
15 portion of Highway 101 in the County of Humboldt from post mile
16 85.35 to post mile 86.28 near the City of Arcata as the Kevin R.
17 Ebbert SO1 Navy SEAL Memorial Highway; and be it further

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

24 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
25 of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
26 for appropriate distribution.

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