

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 88

Introduced by Assembly Member Campos

June 16, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 88—Relative to the San Jose Police Officer Michael Johnson Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 88, as introduced, Campos. San Jose Police Officer Michael Johnson Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a portion of State Highway Route 87 in the City of San Jose as the San Jose Police Officer Michael Johnson 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 costs, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, San Jose Police Officer Michael “Mike” Jeremiah
2 Johnson was born on December 4, 1976. At the time he was born,
3 Mike’s father, Daniel Johnson, was a military police officer in the
4 United States Army, who, after his discharge from the army,
5 became a member of the Calaveras County Sheriff’s Department,
6 and Mike and his family moved to Wilseyville, California; and
7 WHEREAS, After his parents’ divorce, Mike and his mother,
8 Katherine Decker, and his sister, Jamie Radack, moved to the City
9 of San Jose in 1988, where Mike attended Gunderson High School
10 and became captain of the school’s chess team. Mike’s first job
11 was delivering newspapers on his bicycle for the San Jose Mercury

1 News, and, after graduation from high school in 1995, Mike took
2 classes at West Valley College while working as an audio-visual
3 specialist at Radio Shack and later at The Good Guys electronics
4 store. He began studying jujitsu, ultimately earning a black belt
5 and becoming an instructor to children; and

6 WHEREAS, Mike's ultimate goal and desire was to become a
7 police officer and serve his community. Mike joined the San Jose
8 Police Academy in 2001 and graduated on June 15, 2001. As a
9 member of San Jose's police force, Officer Johnson was a dedicated
10 and highly regarded officer who had a strong sense of duty and
11 great pride in being a police officer. He was beloved in the
12 community because he always had a genuine smile and a natural
13 ability to engage people in conversation; and

14 WHEREAS, On March 24, 2015, Officer Johnson and his
15 partner, Doug Potwora, responded to an emergency call involving
16 a suicidal man who was threatening his wife in a domestic violence
17 dispute. When they arrived, the suspect, armed with a high-powered
18 rifle, opened fire on the officers from behind an enclosed balcony.
19 Tragically, the suspect fatally shot Officer Johnson. The suspect
20 was later shot and killed by Officer Potwora, whose heroic efforts
21 likely saved several more lives; and

22 WHEREAS, During his 14 years with the San Jose Police
23 Department, Officer Johnson worked as a patrolman and court
24 liaison. He also specialized in prescription drug fraud crimes and
25 had recently been promoted to field training officer. Officer
26 Johnson was a member of the Specialist Rifle Program and an
27 expert marksman. He proved his skills each year when he and his
28 father competed together at the United States Police and Fire
29 Championships, where he won numerous medals. Officer Johnson
30 will be inducted into the Police and Fire Championships' Hall of
31 Fame this year; and

32 WHEREAS, Officer Johnson is survived by his wife, Nicole,
33 his parents, Daniel Johnson and Katherine Decker, his step parents
34 Dann Decker and Penny Johnson, his grandmother, Frances
35 Guillemin, and his sister, Jamie Radack; and

36 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to memorialize the service and
37 sacrifice of Officer Johnson by designating a portion of State
38 Highway Route 87 in the City of San Jose in his honor; now,
39 therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
2 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby designates the
3 portion of State Highway Route 87 between State Highway Route
4 85 and Interstate 280 in the City of San Jose as the San Jose Police
5 Officer Michael Johnson Memorial Highway; and be it further

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

12 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
13 of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
14 for appropriate distribution.