

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 2, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 29, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 23, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 138

Introduced by Assembly Members Lackey and Wilk
(Coauthor: ~~Senator Runner~~)

February 16, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 138—Relative to the *Senator Sharon Runner Memorial Highway*, ~~Larry Chimbole Memorial Highway~~ *Highway*, and the Santa Clarita Veterans Parkway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 138, as amended, Lackey. *Senator Sharon Runner Memorial Highway*, ~~Larry Chimbole Memorial Highway~~ *Highway*, and the Santa Clarita Veterans Parkway.

This measure would designate *a specified portion of State Highway Route 14 in the City of Lancaster as the Senator Sharon Runner Memorial Highway*, a specified portion of State Route 138 in the County of Los Angeles as the ~~Larry Chimbole Memorial Highway~~ *Highway*, and a specified portion of highway from Interstate 5 to State Highway Route 14, commonly known as the Cross Valley Connector, as the Santa Clarita Veterans Parkway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing these special designations and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering the cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 *WHEREAS, The honorable Sharon Runner was born on May*
2 *17, 1954, in the City of Los Angeles; and*
3 *WHEREAS, She was a lifelong resident of the City of Lancaster,*
4 *California; and*
5 *WHEREAS, Before embarking on her political career, Ms.*
6 *Runner cofounded Desert Christian Schools, which has grown to*
7 *three campuses with nearly 1,700 students; and*
8 *WHEREAS, She was a conservative who served in the California*
9 *State Assembly from 2002 to 2008; and*
10 *WHEREAS, She was elected to the California State Senate in*
11 *2011; and*
12 *WHEREAS, Senator Runner coauthored California’s version*
13 *of Jessica’s Law, approved by voters in 2006, to restrict sex*
14 *offenders from living near parks, schools, and other places where*
15 *children congregate; and*
16 *WHEREAS, Senator Runner served on the board of California*
17 *Women Lead, a bipartisan organization that encourages and*
18 *empowers women to run for public office; and*
19 *WHEREAS, In 1998, she was appointed by Governor Pete*
20 *Wilson to serve on the Antelope Valley Fair Board of Directors,*
21 *where she oversaw the operations of the 50th Agriculture District;*
22 *and*
23 *WHEREAS, In 2009, she was appointed by Governor*
24 *Schwarzenegger to the California Unemployment Insurance*
25 *Appeals Board; and*
26 *WHEREAS, Throughout her life, Senator Runner volunteered*
27 *her time on several boards and committees, including the United*
28 *Way, Antelope Valley Hospital Gift Foundation, Antelope Valley*
29 *Crime Task Force, Healthy Homes Advisory Council, and Care*
30 *Net; and*
31 *WHEREAS, She was diagnosed with limited scleroderma, also*
32 *known as CREST syndrome, in 1984 at the age of 30; and*
33 *WHEREAS, She received a double-lung transplant in 2012; and*
34 *WHEREAS, Following her high-profile illness and recovery,*
35 *Senator Runner volunteered with organizations committed to*
36 *increasing organ donations; and*
37 *WHEREAS, She was reelected to the California State Senate in*
38 *2015; and*
39 *WHEREAS, Senator Sharon Runner passed away on July 14,*
40 *2016, after experiencing respiratory complications; and*

1 WHEREAS, Lawrence “Larry” Chimbole was born in New
2 Haven, Connecticut, on May 22, 1919, and graduated from
3 Stamford High School in 1937. During World War II, Chimbole
4 served as a B-29 radio operator in the Army Air Corps on the
5 Pacific Island of Tinian. After World War II, he moved to
6 California and settled in the City of Glendale, before migrating
7 west to the San Fernando Valley, and then moving to the
8 community of Palmdale in 1957; and

9 WHEREAS, When Larry arrived in the Palmdale area, the
10 population was approximately 7,100 people. There was no
11 incorporated City of Palmdale or City of Lancaster, no Antelope
12 Valley Freeway, no California Aqueduct, no Antelope Valley,
13 ~~Crystal Lake~~ *Crystal Lake*, or Rancho Vista country clubs, no mall,
14 no high schools, no courthouse, no Board of Trade, no county
15 library, no hospital, no Palmdale Amphitheater, no DryTown Water
16 Park, no Poncitlán Square, and no Palmdale Auto Mall; and

17 WHEREAS, Larry became the owner of a hardware store in
18 Palmdale and almost immediately became involved in Palmdale’s
19 civic affairs as president of the Palmdale Kiwanis Club, and then
20 as president of the Palmdale Chamber of Commerce in 1961; and

21 WHEREAS, Larry was instrumental in leading the City of
22 Palmdale into incorporation as one of the “50 Grand Men,” who
23 each donated money to fund the process. After the city was
24 successfully incorporated in 1962, he was elected as the city’s first
25 mayor. He helped bring the Lockheed assembly plant to the
26 Antelope Valley and was instrumental in the development of the
27 Antelope Valley and its freeway system; and

28 WHEREAS, After serving as mayor, Larry Chimbole ran as a
29 Democrat in a highly Republican area, went on to serve two
30 consecutive terms in the California State Assembly from 1974 to
31 1978, and was the first Antelope Valley resident to ever be elected
32 to the State Legislature. He then served a total of 12 years on the
33 Palmdale City Council, where he represented the city as the
34 president of the California Contract Cities Association and as
35 president of the Los Angeles County Division of the League of
36 California Cities. In 1974, Larry was responsible for arranging the
37 National Guard Armory to be located in the City of Palmdale
38 instead of the City of Lancaster; and

39 WHEREAS, After serving in the Assembly, Larry Chimbole
40 continued to serve his community by serving as a member of the

1 State Board of Landscape Architects, the Antelope Valley
2 Healthcare District Board of Directors, and the Antelope Valley
3 Fair Board of Directors; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1996, the Desert Mailer had the front page
5 headline, “Chimbole just keeps on tickin’.” In the article, when
6 asked how he would like to be remembered, Larry Chimbole stated
7 that his legacy would be how active he was in 1960 and that he
8 remained just as active for the rest of his life; and

9 WHEREAS, Former Mayor Chimbole continued to be active
10 in his community. In 1999, he served as campaign chair of the
11 United Way Antelope Valley Region; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2006, city officials immortalized the “50 Grand
13 Men” when they formally presented a beautiful plaque that is
14 currently on display at the Chimbole Cultural Center; and

15 WHEREAS, On August 24, 2012, Larry Chimbole was a
16 featured guest at the City of Palmdale’s 50th anniversary
17 celebration held at Poncitlán Square that was attended by
18 thousands. In 2013, more than 100 friends and family members
19 gathered to celebrate his 94th birthday at the Chimbole Cultural
20 Center that bears his name. At 94, Larry Chimbole was still very
21 active in the community, where he attended many local community
22 events; and

23 WHEREAS, In 2014, a committee was formed to raise funds
24 to create a series of bronze statues called “Legendary Locals.” The
25 first statue in the series was to be of Larry Chimbole. The statue
26 was dedicated on October 8, 2015, across from the Palmdale City
27 Hall on a bench in Poncitlán Square. More than 200 people
28 witnessed the unveiling of the statue entitled “The First ~~Mayor~~”
29 *Mayor*,” which depicts Chimbole seated on a bench with one arm
30 resting atop the back of the bench to encourage visitors to sit and
31 visit with a “local legend”; and

32 WHEREAS, The residents of the nearby City of Santa Clarita
33 also owe a great deal of gratitude toward the men and women of
34 their community who bravely served in the United States Armed
35 Forces; and

36 WHEREAS, The Santa Clarita Valley is home to more than
37 10,000 military veterans and their families; and

38 WHEREAS, Men and women veterans of that community served
39 their country by making tremendous sacrifices to preserve our

1 freedoms and independence, and by keeping our country strong;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Our selfless men and women veterans are deserving
4 of our recognition to commemorate their courage and patriotism;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, These veterans greatly contribute to the quality of
7 life in the City of Santa Clarita through their investment and
8 involvement in the community and by volunteering for a variety
9 of civic activities; now, therefore, be it

10 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
11 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the portion of
12 highway that extends from the junction of Newhall Ranch Road
13 and Interstate 5 to Golden Valley Road and Golden Valley Road
14 from its conjunction with Newhall Ranch Road to this junction
15 with State Highway Route 14, commonly known as the Cross
16 Valley Connector, as the Santa Clarita Veterans Parkway in honor
17 of the service that veterans have provided to our great nation; and
18 be it further

19 RESOLVED, *That the Legislature designates the portion of*
20 *State Highway Route 14 in the County of Los Angeles from West*
21 *Avenue H to West Avenue K in the City of Lancaster as the Senator*
22 *Sharon Runner Memorial Highway; and be it further*

23 *Resolved*, That the Legislature designates the portion of State
24 Route 138 in the County of Los Angeles from the interchange at
25 State Route 14 to 40th Street East in the City of Palmdale as the
26 Larry Chimbole Memorial Highway; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the sign posted to commemorate the Larry
28 Chimbole Memorial Highway additionally state “Larry Chimbole
29 Memorial Highway: First Mayor of Palmdale”; and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
31 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the
32 signing requirements for the state highway system showing each
33 of these special designations and, upon receiving donations from
34 nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost of the signs for which
35 the donations are made, to erect those signs; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
2 of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
3 for appropriate distribution.

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6 **CORRECTIONS:**

7 **Heading—Line 2.**

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