

**Introduced by Senator Morrell  
(Coauthors: Senators Fuller and Huff)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chang, Jones, Lackey, Linder, Mayes,  
Oberholte, Steinorth, and Wagner)

February 26, 2015

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 22—Relative to the CAL FIRE  
Firefighter Christopher Lee Douglas Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 22, 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  
erect appropriate signs, consistent with the signing requirements for the  
state highway system, showing this special designation and to cover  
the cost of those signs from nonstate sources previously secured.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 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 41 years of age, 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
- 9 WHEREAS, Firefighter Douglas was an 11-year veteran of the
- 10 United States Air Force, enlisting in 1992. While stationed at

1 Vandenberg Air Force Base, he earned the rank of Staff Sergeant,  
2 attended Airman Leadership School, and was a Missile and Space  
3 Systems Maintenance Apprentice. During his Air Force career, he  
4 earned the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Air Force  
5 Commendation Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Award  
6 with 1 device, the Air Force Training Ribbon, and the National  
7 Defense Service Medal; and

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

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

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

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

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

35 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
36 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature recognizes the  
37 contributions of CAL FIRE Firefighter Christopher Lee Douglas  
38 to the people of California and hereby designates the five-mile  
39 portion of Interstate 10 from the 22nd Street undercrossing to the  
40 Malki Road undercrossing in Banning, California, as the CAL

1 FIRE Firefighter Christopher Lee Douglas Memorial Highway;  
2 and be it further

3 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested  
4 to erect appropriate signs, consistent with the signing requirements  
5 for the state highway system, showing this special designation and  
6 to cover the cost of those signs from nonstate sources previously  
7 secured; and be it further

8 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
9 this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author  
10 for appropriate distribution.

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