

**Introduced by Senator Wolk**

**(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Hall, Hueso, Mitchell, Nielsen, and Roth)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alejo, Brown, Burke, Chávez, Cooper, Dodd, Frazier, Gipson, Holden, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Mathis, McCarty, Ridley-Thomas, Thurmond, and Weber)

February 27, 2015

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 24—Relative to the Lieutenant Colonel James C. Warren Memorial Interchange.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 24, as introduced, Wolk. Lieutenant Colonel James C. Warren Memorial Interchange.

This measure would designate the interchange of Interstate Routes 80 and 505 in the County of Solano as the Lieutenant Colonel James C. Warren Memorial Interchange. 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, Born on August 16, 1923, into the racially  
2 segregated community of Gurly, Alabama, James C. Warren left  
3 the region at the age of 15 years, when his mother sent him to  
4 Island Park, Illinois, where he attended high school; and

5 WHEREAS, Enlisting in 1943 to preflight with the Tuskegee  
6 Airmen, the all black United States Army Air Force unit that  
7 distinguished itself in combat during World War II, Lieutenant  
8 Colonel Warren was assigned to Indiana’s Freeman Field, where,

1 after being eliminated from pilot training, he completed navigator  
2 training, through which he qualified as both a navigator and a  
3 bombardier; and

4 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Warren was one of the 101  
5 black officers at Freeman Field in 1945 who were arrested and  
6 charged with mutiny because they refused to comply with base  
7 regulations excluding black officers from a base officers' club;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The service records of Lieutenant Colonel Warren  
10 and the other 100 officers were cleared by the Air Force in 1995,  
11 an action that was announced that year during a convention of the  
12 Tuskegee Airmen; and

13 WHEREAS, After serving with the 477th Bombardment Group  
14 of the Tuskegee Airmen, Lieutenant Colonel Warren spent 35  
15 years with the United States Air Force, for which he flew 173  
16 combat missions in Korea and Vietnam, earning such esteemed  
17 commendations and decorations as the Congressional Gold Medal,  
18 Distinguished Flying Cross with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and Air  
19 Force Commendation Medal, among numerous others; and

20 WHEREAS, A University of Nebraska graduate who ultimately  
21 became the oldest individual to earn a pilot's license at the age of  
22 87 years, Lieutenant Colonel Warren distinguished himself through  
23 his community leadership and participation in the Nut Tree  
24 Airport's Young Eagles Program, as well as his membership with  
25 the Jimmy Doolittle Air and Space Museum Foundation, the Kappa  
26 Alpha Psi Fraternity, and Tuskegee Airmen Incorporated; and

27 WHEREAS, In recognition of Lieutenant Colonel Warren's  
28 great accomplishments in support of the cause of freedom for all  
29 people, and especially in light of his contributions to his fellow  
30 citizens of California, it would be fitting to designate the  
31 interchange of Interstate Routes 80 and 505 in the County of Solano  
32 in his honor; now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
34 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby designates the  
35 interchange of Interstate Routes 80 and 505 in the County of Solano  
36 as the Lieutenant Colonel James C. Warren Memorial Interchange;  
37 and be it further

38 *Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is requested  
39 to determine the costs 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 the cost, to erect those signs; and  
3 be it further  
4 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
5 this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author  
6 for appropriate distribution.

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