

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 2, 2016

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 147

Introduced by Senator Anderson
(Coauthor: Senator Stone)
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Jones)

June 1, 2016

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 147—Relative to Historic Highway Route 79.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 147, as amended, Anderson. Historic Highway Route 79.

This measure would designate a specified portion of Highway Route 79 in the Counties of San Diego and Riverside as Historic Highway Route 79 and request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of 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, Highway Route 79 is among the County of San
- 2 Diego's last three unsullied rural highways; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Highway Route 79 begins in the community of
- 4 Descanso and then climbs and winds through some of southern
- 5 California's most historically significant natural and manmade
- 6 sites; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Highway Route 79 then travels through Cuyamaca
- 8 Rancho State Park, surrounding travelers with geological and
- 9 geographical landmarks; and

1 WHEREAS, Highway Route 79 next winds past gold mines,
2 communities, and tiny towns that dot the primeval Cleveland
3 National Forest; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1600, those already old and overlapping trails
5 that would later become Highway Route 79 marked the way for
6 Spanish explorer Pedro Fages and those riding horses with him;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, A portion of Highway Route 79 served as a
9 segment of the ~~2,812-mile~~ 2,812-mile Butterfield Overland Mail
10 Route, which was the first transcontinental postal delivery service
11 in the country; and

12 WHEREAS, In other states, several portions of the Butterfield
13 Overland Mail Route have been officially registered as historic
14 places, reminding today's travelers of the bravery, determination,
15 and adventurism of those who built and ~~travelled~~ traveled this
16 famous route in the 19th century; and

17 WHEREAS, Highway Route 79 further winds through Julian,
18 a community that a handful of people founded and in which gold
19 was discovered in 1870; and

20 WHEREAS, By 1908, when the state began paving Highway
21 Route 79, the route had already been used by army surveyors, pre-
22 and post-Civil War gold miners, American and European settlers,
23 Chinese workers, immigrants from the British Isles, and European
24 immigrants tired of the Austro-Hungarian wars; and

25 WHEREAS, Highway Route 79 has outstanding natural, cultural,
26 historic, and scenic qualities; and

27 WHEREAS, It is therefore appropriate to recognize a portion
28 of Highway Route 79 for its historical significance and importance
29 in the development of California and to designate that portion as
30 Historic Highway Route 79; now, therefore, be it

31 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
32 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
33 portion of Highway Route 79 from where it intersects with
34 Interstate 8 at *post mile L 0.044 at Japatul Valley Road* in the
35 County of San Diego to its intersection ~~with Interstate 15 at post~~
36 *mile RIV 15.74 at Butterfield Stage Road* in the County of Riverside
37 as Historic Highway Route 79; and be it further

38 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
39 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with signing
40 requirements for the state highway system showing the special

1 Historic Highway Route 79~~designation~~, *designation* and, upon
2 receiving donations from nonstate sources for that cost, to facilitate
3 the erection of those signs at appropriate locations on Highway
4 Route 79; and be it further

5 *Resolved*, That the designation of Historic Highway Route 79
6 pursuant to this resolution shall have no impact upon the future
7 planning or development of adjacent private and public properties;
8 and be it further

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

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