

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 22

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 55

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 22—Relative to State Highway Route 101.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 19, 1995.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 22, Hauser. State Highway Route 101: Van Duzen River crossing; designation.

This measure would designate the southbound State Highway Route 101 bridge crossing the Van Duzen River near Alton, in Humboldt County, the James Van Duzen Memorial Bridge, and would designate the northbound crossing the Harold W. Comfort Memorial Bridge. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing those special designations and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

WHEREAS, At the State Highway Route 101 crossing of the Van Duzen River near Alton, in Humboldt County, a new highway bridge will accommodate northbound traffic, while an existing parallel bridge will carry southbound traffic; and

WHEREAS, The existence of these bridges affords a unique opportunity for honoring two of Humboldt County's outstanding citizens; and

WHEREAS, The Van Duzen River is named for one of the county's first settlers, James Van Duzen, formerly of Schyler, New York, who arrived in the area with the Gregg-Wood party in 1849; and

WHEREAS, The party of explorers led by Josiah Gregg and Lewis Wood, traveled overland to California and discovered Humboldt Bay in 1849; and

WHEREAS, In 1850, James Van Duzen established a farm on land at the mouth of the Van Duzen River; and

WHEREAS, Van Duzen perished in 1859 when a canoe, in which he was ferrying supplies to the farm, capsized; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting, therefor, that the southbound State Highway Route 101 bridge near Alton, in Humboldt County, be named for James Van Duzen; and

WHEREAS, As Humboldt County grew, so did its needs, and one person who contributed so much to meeting those needs was Harold W. Comfort, M.D., who practiced medicine in southern Humboldt County for a third of a century; and



WHEREAS, Born May 2, 1894, Dr. Comfort was a typical small town doctor, spending long days and nights caring for his patients; and

WHEREAS, He was always there for his patients, a kind, warm-hearted, understanding man, who was loved by all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, In caring for two to three times the number of patients normally served by a physician, Dr. Comfort carried a burden that undoubtably contributed to his untimely death in 1954; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the new northbound State Highway Route 101 bridge near Alton, in Humboldt County, be dedicated to the memory of Dr. Harold W. Comfort who spent his life caring for and serving the people of southern Humboldt County; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the southbound State Highway Route 101 bridge near Alton, in Humboldt County, is hereby officially designated the James Van Duzen Memorial Bridge, and that the new northbound bridge is officially designated the Harold W. Comfort Memorial Bridge; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested to determine the cost of appropriate plaques and markers, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing those special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those plaques and markers; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit a copy of this resolution to the Director of Transportation.

