

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 12, 1996

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1995–96 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 68

Introduced by Assembly Member Brown
(Principal coauthor: Senator Thompson)

February 23, 1996

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 68—Relative to the Parker B. Rice Memorial Bridge and the Richard “Fresh Air” Janson Bridge.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 68, as amended, Brown. Parker B. Rice Memorial Bridge: *Richard “Fresh Air” Janson Bridge.*

This measure would designate a certain bridge on State Highway Route 12 in Santa Rosa the Parker B. Rice Memorial Bridge, and would designate the Sonoma Creek Bridge on State Highway Route 37 in Sonoma County the Richard “Fresh Air” Janson Bridge.

The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate plaques and markers showing ~~this~~ *these* special—~~designation~~ *designations* and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those plaques and markers.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Parker B. Rice, a native Californian, World
2 War II veteran, newspaperman, prominent leader in
3 veteran’s and service organizations, as well as devoted

1 husband, father, and grandfather, will be missed by all
2 who knew him, and by those who benefited from his
3 many exceptional accomplishments on behalf of
4 veterans; and

5 WHEREAS, Following his enlistment at the age of 18,
6 Parker Rice served as an Army Air Corps aircraft
7 mechanic and saw action throughout the South Pacific,
8 while rising to the rank of Master Sergeant; and

9 WHEREAS, Wounded in action during the landing of
10 American forces in the Philippines, he was honorably
11 discharged in 1946; and

12 WHEREAS, He then embarked on a 41-year career
13 with the Santa Rosa “Press Democrat,” beginning as an
14 apprentice stereotyper, and rising to production
15 manager; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1951, Parker B. Rice joined the Disabled
17 American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 48, Santa Rosa, an
18 affiliation that was to last 43 years, until his death on
19 February 15, 1995, at the age of 71; and

20 WHEREAS, During his long tenure with the Disabled
21 American Veterans, Mr. Parker served as Commander of
22 the California Department from 1955–56, and for 15 years
23 served on the prestigious Claims and Service
24 Commission, chairing the commission for 10 years; and

25 WHEREAS, At the national level, Mr. Rice served as a
26 member of the 16th District National Executive
27 Committee, and held National Junior and Senior Vice
28 Commander positions; and

29 WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the State of
30 California recognize and memorialize the many
31 contributions that Parker B. Rice has made to his
32 community, state, and nation; *and*

33 *WHEREAS, The Sonoma Creek Bridge on State*
34 *Highway Route 37 in Sonoma County would provide a*
35 *unique opportunity to honor one of the Pacific Coast’s*
36 *outstanding artisans; and*

37 *WHEREAS, Decoy carving requires great skill,*
38 *craftsmanship, and knowledge of waterfowl; and*



1 *WHEREAS, Richard Ludwig “Fresh Air Dick” Janson*
2 *is recognized as one of the premier decoy carvers in the*
3 *American West; and*

4 *WHEREAS, Mr. Janson’s career spanned three decades*
5 *from the early 1920’s until his death in 1951; and*

6 *WHEREAS, Mr. Janson’s carvings set the “gold*
7 *standard” against which all other Pacific Coast decoys are*
8 *evaluated; and*

9 *WHEREAS, His carvings educated many relating to,*
10 *and created an appreciation of, the waterfowl along the*
11 *Pacific Flyway; and*

12 *WHEREAS, Mr. Janson was born in Estonia near the*
13 *Baltic seaport of Riga, had a Swedish name, and spoke*
14 *German; and*

15 *WHEREAS, His life reflects the rich diversity of*
16 *California and contributions from many regions of the*
17 *world; and*

18 *WHEREAS, Mr. Janson lived on an ark moored*
19 *one-half mile from the bridge where he carved the decoys*
20 *on Sonoma Creek for most of his life now, therefore, be*
21 *it*

22 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the*
23 *Senate thereof concurring, That Bridge No. 20-0267,*
24 *located near the Santa Rosa Memorial Building and*
25 *Sonoma County Fair Grounds on State Highway Route*
26 *12, is hereby officially designated the Parker B. Rice*
27 *Memorial Bridge; and be it further*

28 *Resolved, That the Sonoma Creek Bridge on State*
29 *Highway Route 37 in Sonoma County is hereby officially*
30 *designated the Richard “Fresh Air” Janson Bridge; and be*
31 *it further*

32 *Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is*
33 *requested to determine the cost of appropriate plaques*
34 *and markers, consistent with the signing requirements*
35 *for the state highway system, showing ~~the special~~*
36 *~~designation~~ these special designations and, upon*
37 *receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that*
38 *cost, to erect those plaques and markers; and be it further*



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

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