

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 57

**Introduced by Assembly Members Goldsmith, Baldwin,
Davis, Ducheny, Kaloogian, and Wayne**
(Coauthors: Senators Alpert, Haynes, and Kelley)

May 12, 1997

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 57—Relative to the
Kumeyaay Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 57, as introduced, Goldsmith. Kumeyaay Highway.

This measure would designate a specified section of Interstate Highway Route 8 in San Diego County as the "Kumeyaay Highway," and would request the Department of Transportation to erect plaques and markers showing the designation if contributions from private sources are received to cover the costs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, The Kumeyaay Nation was composed of
2 bands and family clans that claimed territorial rights to an
3 area that stretched from the Pacific Ocean, east to the
4 Colorado River, north to northern San Diego County, and
5 south as far as Ensenada, Mexico; and
6 WHEREAS, The Kumeyaay had well-functioning
7 social and economic structures that had evolved over a
8 period of more than 10,000 years, and the Kumeyaay
9 society practiced sophisticated governmental, private,
10 and community property rights and religious beliefs; and

1 WHEREAS, Interstate Highway Route 8 through the
2 coastal mountains to the desert has its origins in Indian
3 trails, which became stagecoach routes, then roads, and
4 eventually a modern interstate, and because the
5 Kumeyaay lived as far east as the Colorado River, and
6 since the bands connected the nation through a
7 communication network of trained runners, it is obvious
8 they had carved out trails over the eastern mountains to
9 the deserts, that were adopted, as a matter of course, by
10 the non-Indians who followed; and

11 WHEREAS, The approximate route of Interstate
12 Highway Route 8 through the coastal mountains to the
13 Imperial Valley and Colorado River was originally
14 Kumeyaay trails and still links together five of the
15 Kumeyaay Nation's bands; that is, the Viejas Band,
16 Campo Band, Cayapaibe Band, La Posta Band, and
17 Manzanita Band; and

18 WHEREAS, The terrain still bears historic and current
19 witness to tribal presence in names and with reservations;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Kumeyaay labor participated in
22 construction of the first road that later became Interstate
23 Highway Route 8; and

24 WHEREAS, Designating the section of Route 8 in San
25 Diego County from the eastern city boundary of the City
26 of El Cajon to the eastern county boundary with the
27 County of Imperial for San Diego's original inhabitants is
28 therefore a fitting testimony to the contributions of
29 California's native population; now, therefore, be it

30 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the*
31 *Senate thereof concurring,* That the section of Interstate
32 Highway Route 8 in San Diego County from the eastern
33 city boundary of the City of El Cajon to the eastern county
34 boundary with the County of Imperial, is hereby officially
35 designated the "Kumeyaay Highway"; and be it further

36 *Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is
37 requested to determine the cost of erecting appropriate
38 plaques and markers, consistent with the signing
39 requirements for the state highway system, showing this
40 official designation and, upon receiving contributions



1 from private sources to cover that cost, to erect those
2 plaques and markers; and be it further
3 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
4 transmit a copy of this resolution to the Director of
5 Transportation.

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