

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 66

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 26

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 66—Relative to the John Wilkie Safety Roadside Rest Area.

[Filed with Secretary of State April 16, 1998.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 66, Olberg. John Wilkie Safety Roadside Rest Area.

This measure would redesignate the Fenner Safety Roadside Rest Area on Interstate Highway Route 40 the John Wilkie Safety Roadside Rest Area at Fenner.

The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate plaques and markers, consistent with signing requirements for the state highway system, showing that special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those plaques and markers.

WHEREAS, In John Wilkie's outstanding 27-year career with the Department of Transportation (Caltrans), he rose from a Caltrans equipment operator to a highway maintenance superintendent; and

WHEREAS, John Wilkie's experience and expertise in many areas resulted in his participation on numerous statewide committees dealing with highway issues; and

WHEREAS, In continuing his commitment to providing quality services for the traveling public, John Wilkie was an active participant in developing a statewide collaborative program to provide employment opportunities for persons with disabilities throughout the statewide roadside rest system of Caltrans; and

WHEREAS, John Wilkie's statewide leadership role was the foundation for the development of an interdepartmental task force consisting of Caltrans, the state Department of Mental Health, and the Department of Rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, Using "roads as bridges to employment," the task force successfully increased statewide employment opportunities for persons with disabilities by facilitating, activating, and empowering local communities to coordinate and maximize their resources; and

WHEREAS, Due to John Wilkie's statewide leadership role, Caltrans received a special employer's award for its outstanding contribution to increasing employment opportunities for this state's disabled population that was presented at the 1992 Employment Partnership Conference of Consumers, Employers, and Service

Providers, sponsored by the state Department of Mental Health and the Department of Rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, Through John Wilkie's continuing statewide contribution to creating employment opportunities within the Caltrans system, Caltrans received in 1994 a Public Employer of the Year Award from the Governor's Committee for Employment of Disabled Persons; and

WHEREAS, With John Wilkie representing Caltrans, California's Building the Employment Services Team (BEST) Networks were developed statewide to address and meet employee, employer, and community needs; and

WHEREAS, Those statewide community focus groups share the common mission of supporting collaborative employment services for persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The commitment of Caltrans to participating in the development of statewide employment opportunities for persons with disabilities was demonstrated by its designation of John Wilkie as a department representative when he was the Needles Highway Maintenance Superintendent and later as a retired annuitant; and

WHEREAS, Dedicating a safety roadside rest area to John Wilkie recognizes where his journey began in developing employment opportunities for disabled people in this state to provide quality services to the traveling public; and

WHEREAS, The Fenner Safety Roadside Rest Area is maintained by the Needles TEAM, a specialized employment program initiated by John Wilkie for those residents of Needles who have difficulty obtaining and maintaining employment; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate concurring, That the Fenner Safety Roadside Rest Area on Interstate Highway Route 40 is hereby redesignated the John Wilkie Safety Roadside Rest Area at Fenner ; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested to determine the cost of appropriate plaques and markers, consistent with signing requirements for the state highway system, showing the 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 the resolution to the Director of Transportation.

