

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 148

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 125

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 148—Relative to the Marine Private First Class Eugene A. Obregon Interchange.

[Filed with Secretary of State August 20, 1998.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 148, Cedillo. The Marine Private First Class Eugene A. Obregon Interchange.

This measure would designate the freeway interchange involving Interstate Highway Routes 5 and 10 and State Highway Routes 60 and 101, commonly referred to as the East Los Angeles Interchange, the Marine Private First Class Eugene A. Obregon Interchange. The measure also would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

WHEREAS, While serving as an ammunition carrier with Golf Company, Third Battalion, Fifth Marine Regiment, First Marine Division (Reinforced), during the Korean War, Private First Class Eugene A. Obregon was killed in action on September 26, 1950; and

WHEREAS, While serving his country, Private First Class Obregon's machine-gun squad was temporarily pinned down by hostile fire; and during this time, he observed a fellow marine fall wounded in the line of fire; and

WHEREAS, Armed only with a pistol, Private First Class Obregon unhesitantly dashed from his cover position to the side of the fallen marine; and

WHEREAS, Firing his pistol with one hand as he ran, Private First Class Obregon grasped his comrade by the arm, and despite the great peril to himself, dragged the marine to the side of the road; and

WHEREAS, Still under enemy fire, Private First Class Obregon was bandaging the marine's wounds when hostile troops began approaching their position; and

WHEREAS, Quickly seizing the wounded marine's rifle, Private First Class Obregon placed his own body as a shield in front of the wounded marine and lay there firing accurately and effectively into the approaching enemy troops until he, himself, was fatally wounded by enemy machine-gun fire; and

WHEREAS, By his courageous fighting spirit, fortitude, and loyal devotion to duty, Private First Class Obregon enabled his fellow marines to rescue the wounded marine; and

WHEREAS, Private First Class Obregon gallantly and bravely gave his life for his country, thereby upholding the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service and the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, By fate and courage, Private First Class Eugene Obregon is one of the valiant Mexican-Americans to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military honor for bravery; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates the freeway interchange involving Interstate Highway Routes 5 and 10 and State Highway Routes 60 and 101, commonly referred to as the East Los Angeles Interchange, as the Marine Private First Class Eugene A. Obregon Interchange, in honor and in recognition of Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Private First Class Eugene A. Obregon, United States Marine Corps, for conspicuous gallantry and bravery while serving his country during the Korean War; 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 this 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 copies of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author for distribution.

