

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 80

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 97

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 80—Relative to the CHP Officer Alfred R. Turner Memorial Highway.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 14, 1998.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 80, Monteith. CHP Officer Alfred R. Turner Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate the 11.3-mile stretch of Interstate Highway Route 5 between State Highway Route 152 and State Highway Route 165 the CHP Officer Alfred R. Turner Memorial Highway.

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

WHEREAS, Alfred R. Turner was born in a little log and rock house in rural Chester, Arkansas, on February 9, 1940, the fifth child of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Turner; and

WHEREAS, Alfred R. Turner moved to Susanville, California, on May 14, 1944, and remained in northern California until joining the United States Navy at 17 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Seven years after joining the Department of the California Highway Patrol, on December 16, 1975, California Highway Patrol Officer Alfred R. Turner was shot and killed by a motorist on Interstate Highway Route 5 near Los Banos, after stopping the vehicle because of a burned-out headlight; and

WHEREAS, Officer Turner was unaware that the car he stopped had just been stolen in San Leandro, and when the officer stepped out of his patrol car, the motorist exited his vehicle, and, as the two men began walking toward each other, the motorist suddenly pulled a .357 magnum revolver and opened fire; and

WHEREAS, Officer Turner was hit with three bullets, but returned fire and hit his assailant with five shots; and

WHEREAS, Officer Turner, although critically wounded, managed to return to his patrol car and radio for help; and

WHEREAS, Officer Turner, age 35, succumbed to his wounds and died 12 days later; and



WHEREAS, This tragic incident continues to live in the memory of the law enforcement community and local residents of the entire west side of Merced County; and

WHEREAS, As a result of his dedication to his duties, Officer Turner made the ultimate sacrifice in protection of the citizens of our state; and

WHEREAS, The memory of California Highway Patrol Officer Alfred R. Turner continues to be exemplary for current peace officers throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, All California Highway Patrol officers and other peace officers continue to perform their duties without regard for personal safety; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that a portion of Interstate Highway Route 5 be dedicated to the memory of California Highway Patrol Officer Alfred R. Turner who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the people of California; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates the 11.3-mile stretch of Interstate Highway Route 5 between State Highway Route 152 and State Highway Route 165 the CHP Officer Alfred R. Turner Memorial Highway; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested to determine the cost of erecting appropriate plaques and markers, consistent with the 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 Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the author for appropriate distribution.

