

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 133

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 104

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 133—Relative to traffic congestion.

[Filed with Secretary of State August 14, 2000.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 133, Torlakson. Traffic congestion.

This measure would request the Department of the California Highway Patrol to organize a California Traffic Relief Panel, consisting of the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, as Chair, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation, the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Transportation, the Director of Transportation, a representative of a Certified Unified Program Agency selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, a representative of a congestion management agency selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, a representative of a regional transportation planning agency selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, a representative of an air quality management district selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, and, when conducting symposiums in northern California, as specified, a representative of the California State Automobile Association, and, when conducting symposiums in southern California, as specified, a representative of the Automobile Club of Southern California to conduct a series of townhall symposiums to identify local traffic congestion problems and solutions.

WHEREAS, California's citizens and businesses depend on an adequate highway transportation system for mobility and economic prosperity, and California is at the heart of Pacific Rim commerce and North American Free Trade Area commerce, which are both dependent on an adequate highway transportation system; and

WHEREAS, Over the next 10 years, California's population is expected to increase by 18 percent to a population of 40,000,000, the consumption and production of goods is projected to grow by as much as 25 percent, and the number of vehicle miles traveled will increase by 27 percent; and

WHEREAS, California currently has 1,472 congested freeway miles, and California drivers spend in excess of 300,000 hours per day in congestion, resulting in delay costs of \$10,000,000 per day to the traveling public and the goods movement industry; and

WHEREAS, Traffic congestion creates pollution that impacts both air and water quality, and California is home to four of the nation's worst urban air quality areas; and

WHEREAS, California's transportation system is coming under increasing strain from a growing population, increased per capita driving, and urban expansion, all of which result in growing traffic congestion; and

WHEREAS, The increasing congestion and the resulting loss of mobility reduces both the quality of life for California's residents and the economic health of the state; and

WHEREAS, Solutions to traffic congestion cannot rely solely upon additional roadway expansion projects, but will require multidimensional solutions from many entities and the public for the safe and most efficient use of California's highway system; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That it is in the best interests of the people of the State of California to solicit and consider a wide range of information and solutions for traffic congestion relief from the public, public officials, and interested private organizations, and to identify and facilitate the implementation of viable traffic congestion relief measures; and be it further

Resolved, That a series of townhall symposiums be conducted in areas of the state suffering from acute traffic congestion to identify and facilitate the implementation of traffic congestion reduction solutions; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of the California Highway Patrol organize and administer the California Traffic Relief Panel, consisting of the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, who shall serve as Chair, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation, the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Transportation, the Director of Transportation, a representative of a Certified Unified Program Agency selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, a representative of a congestion management agency selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, a representative of a regional transportation planning agency selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, a representative of an air quality management district selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, and, when conducting symposiums in the San Francisco Bay area, the County of Sacramento, and in other Central Valley locations, a representative of the California State Automobile Association, and, when conducting symposiums in the Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego and the Inland Empire, a representative of the Automobile Club of Southern California to conduct a series of townhall symposiums to identify local traffic



congestion problems and traffic congestion reduction solutions; and be it further

Resolved, That the functions of the California Traffic Relief Panel may include, but need not be limited to, all of the following:

(a) Conducting townhall symposiums in the San Francisco Bay area, in the Counties of Sacramento, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego, in the Central Valley, including, but not limited to, the City of Fresno and its surroundings, and in the area containing the Cities of Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ontario, which is commonly known as the Inland Empire.

(b) Inviting the participation of state and local officials, private organizations, large private employers, and the public at large.

(c) Examining local traffic congestion problems and soliciting both short-term and long-term solutions to the issuer.

(d) Examining and seeking ways to mitigate traffic congestion caused by accidents, natural disasters, hazardous material incidents, and maintenance and construction projects.

(e) Preparing a report of the symposium proceedings that will be provided on or before July 1, 2001, to the Legislature, the Governor, and agencies involved in traffic-related planning, project planning, and traffic management; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation, the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Transportation, the Director of Transportation, and other members serving on the California Traffic Relief Panel pursuant to this measure.

