

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 6, 2011

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 33

Introduced by Assembly Member Harkey

March 7, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 33—Relative to the Officer Richard T. Steed Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 33, as amended, Harkey. Officer Richard T. Steed Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 5 ~~between San Diego and in the City of San Clemente~~ as the Officer Richard T. Steed Memorial Highway. This measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering those costs, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Richard (Rick) Thomas Steed was born on
- 2 December 27, 1947, to Henry and Martha Steed, and grew up in
- 3 Alexandria, Virginia with his brother Hank and sister Donna; and
- 4 WHEREAS, During the summers of 1964 to 1967, he managed
- 5 a community pool in Washington, D.C.; and
- 6 WHEREAS, After completing high school Rick enlisted in the
- 7 United States Marine Corps, where he served for eight years and
- 8 rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant. During his service Rick spent
- 9 one tour of duty in Vietnam as a radio technician in the Recon

1 Platoon, and also served in Okinawa. Rick was awarded a Navy
2 Commendation Medal, a Good Service Medal, and a Combat
3 Action Ribbon. He also earned his jump wings; and

4 WHEREAS, While still on active duty Rick became interested
5 in law enforcement and became a reserve police officer with the
6 San Clemente Police Department in July 1975; and

7 WHEREAS, After receiving his associate of arts degree in
8 criminal justice from Saddleback Community College, Rick was
9 hired as a full-time police officer with the San Clemente Police
10 Department on June 6, 1977. Officer Steed attended the Police
11 Academy at Los Medanos College in Pittsburgh, California, where
12 he was elected class president; and

13 WHEREAS, Always quick with a smile or a joke, Rick was
14 very popular with everyone from his fellow officers to the citizens
15 he met on the job. Despite his sense of humor, Rick took his
16 position very seriously. He was a very quick learner, and was
17 described by a supervisor as a man who took pride in everything
18 he did; and

19 WHEREAS, On his final patrol shift, on November 29, 1978,
20 Officer Steed answered a call for medical aid in an adjacent beat.
21 Officer Steed announced his arrival to the dispatcher and indicated
22 that he saw a subject approaching from behind his vehicle. As he
23 exited the car and turned toward the subject, Officer Steed was
24 immediately, and without provocation, shot twice with a .38 caliber
25 handgun, and died from those injuries; and

26 WHEREAS, A massive manhunt involving multiple law
27 enforcement agencies resulted in apprehending the suspect and
28 retrieving the murder weapon. The suspect was incarcerated in a
29 state mental hospital; and

30 WHEREAS, Officer Steed is the only San Clemente police
31 officer to die in the line of duty; and

32 WHEREAS, Officer Steed was enshrined on Honor Rolls in the
33 Santa Ana Courthouse, Sacramento, and Washington, D.C., and
34 named in the Honor Roll and Officer Down Memorial Internet
35 Web sites, and on memorial bricks in the Vietnam section of the
36 Saddleback College Veterans Memorial and at the Marine Corps
37 Museum in Quantico, Virginia. Additionally, a 64-acre park and
38 sports complex was named the Richard T. Steed Memorial Park,
39 and a plaque prominently displayed at Park Semper Fi near the
40 San Clemente Pier; and

1 WHEREAS, Officer Steed was survived by his wife Kathy; and
2 WHEREAS, In recognition of Officer Steed's great
3 contributions, service, and sacrifice to the City of San Clemente,
4 it would be a fitting tribute to designate ~~the~~ a portion of State
5 Highway Route 5 ~~between San Diego and in the City of San~~
6 Clemente as the Officer Richard T. Steed Memorial Highway;
7 now, therefore, be it

8 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
9 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
10 portion of State Highway Route 5 ~~from San Diego to~~ *between the*
11 *San Louis Rey exit and the Camino De Estrella exit in the City of*
12 San Clemente as the Officer Richard T. Steed Memorial Highway;
13 and be it further

14 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
15 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the
16 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this
17 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
18 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
19 further

20 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
21 of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
22 author for appropriate distribution.