

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 66

Introduced by Assembly Member V. Manuel Pérez
(Coauthor: Senator Vargas)

June 3, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 66—Relative to the Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 66, as introduced, V. Manuel Pérez. Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 8 in Imperial County as the Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing the designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Of all of the promises America offers, none is more
- 2 precious or more elusive than the right to be free from crime and
- 3 violence; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The men and women of law enforcement have the
- 5 unenviable task of guaranteeing the public's safety, and it is as
- 6 difficult and dangerous as it is important, as evidenced by the death
- 7 of Deputy Probation Officer Irene Beatrice Rios of the Imperial
- 8 County Probation Department (ICPD), who died in the line of duty
- 9 on August 13, 2008 (E.O.W. 8/13/2008); and

1 WHEREAS, Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios became the
2 first female peace officer to die in the line of duty in Imperial
3 County; and

4 WHEREAS, Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios was born in
5 Brawley on July 20, 1980, to Emilio and Elisabet Rios; and

6 WHEREAS, Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios grew up in
7 Holtville, where she also attended local schools; and

8 WHEREAS, After graduating from Holtville High School in
9 1998, Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios pursued her education
10 at Imperial Valley College in Imperial; and

11 WHEREAS, Two years later, Deputy Probation Officer Irene
12 Rios transferred to San Diego State University, Imperial Valley
13 Campus, where she received a bachelor of science degree in
14 criminal justice administration with a minor in psychology; and

15 WHEREAS, Shortly thereafter, Deputy Probation Officer Irene
16 Rios began working for the Betty Jo McNeece Receiving Home
17 in 2002, where she worked until she was hired as Deputy Probation
18 Officer for the Juvenile Division in January 2005; and

19 WHEREAS, Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios graduated
20 from Probation Officer Core Academy during her first year of
21 employment; and

22 WHEREAS, Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios' love for
23 helping families and youth began when she started working at the
24 receiving home where she found a balance of her two wishes of
25 working in law enforcement and of working with children; and

26 WHEREAS, Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios had gained
27 the respect of her peers, allied law enforcement agencies, the
28 children she supervised, and the community she served, and her
29 willingness to assist in any endeavor epitomized the Imperial
30 County Probation Department Juvenile Division's mission to serve
31 the welfare of children and their families within a sound framework
32 of public safety; and

33 WHEREAS, Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios was a devoted
34 godmother, loving daughter, sister, and friend. In her free time,
35 she enjoyed playing softball and volleyball, and she also enjoyed
36 spending time with her parents and siblings; and

37 WHEREAS, Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios leaves her
38 mother, Elisabet; her father, Emilio; her sister, Eva Elena; her
39 sister, Ana Maribel; her brother, Emilio, Jr.; a host of family and

1 friends; and the entire ICPD family to mourn her passing and
2 celebrate her legacy; and

3 WHEREAS, In keeping Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios’
4 spirit alive, her brothers and sisters in law enforcement formed the
5 718 Foundation in order to grant scholarships to students from
6 local, low-income families to promote professional, academic, or
7 artistic achievement through the Irene B. Rios Memorial
8 Scholarship; and

9 WHEREAS, On August 14, 2008, Governor Arnold
10 Schwarzenegger ordered the State Capitol flags to be flown at
11 half-staff in honor of Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios; and

12 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to designate a portion of State
13 Highway Route 8 in Imperial County in memory of Deputy
14 Probation Officer Irene B. Rios; now, therefore, be it

15 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
16 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
17 westbound segment of State Highway Route 8, between westbound
18 postmile R4.60 and R6.60, in the County of Imperial, as the Deputy
19 Probation Officer Irene B. Rios Memorial Highway; and be it
20 further

21 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is hereby
22 requested to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing the
23 designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources
24 covering that cost, to erect those signs; and be it further

25 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit a copy
26 of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
27 for appropriate distribution.