

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 26, 2012

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 25, 2012

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 90

Introduced by Senator Anderson

(Coauthors: Senators Dutton, Price, Runner, and Wright)

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bradford, Carter, Hagman, Hall,
Mitchell, Portantino, Swanson, and Williams)*

May 14, 2012

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 90—Relative to the Tuskegee Airmen Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 90, as amended, Anderson. Tuskegee Airmen Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 15 in the County of San Diego as the Tuskegee Airmen Highway. The measure would request that the Department of Transportation determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, The United States Army Air Corps formed the
- 2 332nd Fighter Group and the 477th Medium Bombardment Group
- 3 at Tuskegee Institute to train African American fighter pilots who,
- 4 ~~until~~ *prior to* that time, had not been accepted into pilot training
- 5 programs in the military; and
- 6 WHEREAS, The Tuskegee Airmen were sent to the European
- 7 Theatre in 1943 and served in combat in North Africa, Sicily, and
- 8 Europe; and

1 WHEREAS, At the end of World War II, the Tuskegee Airmen
2 were credited with destroying 261 enemy aircraft, damaging 148
3 enemy aircraft, destroying or damaging 940 units of enemy ground
4 transportation, flying 15,553 combat sorties in 1,578 missions over
5 North Africa, Sicily, and Europe, and conducting more than 200
6 bomber escort missions; and

7 WHEREAS, The Tuskegee Airmen unit, including its officers
8 and enlisted personnel, received three Presidential Unit Citations,
9 150 Distinguished Flying Cross and Legion of Merit awards, the
10 Red Star of Yugoslavia, nine Purple Hearts, 14 Bronze Stars, and
11 more than 700 Air Medals and Oak Leaf Cluster awards; and

12 WHEREAS, Sixty-six of the Tuskegee Airmen were killed in
13 combat, and another 33 were shot down and held as prisoners of
14 war; and

15 WHEREAS, The unqualified success of the Tuskegee Airmen
16 helped lead to the eventual integration of the United States Armed
17 Forces; and

18 WHEREAS, The record of the Tuskegee Airmen in World War
19 II was accomplished by individuals who bravely accepted the
20 challenge and proudly displayed their skill and patriotism despite
21 great adversity at home and abroad; and

22 WHEREAS, The Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. is an education and
23 community service organization dedicated to maintaining the
24 traditions of the Tuskegee Airmen and preserving the legacy of
25 the first generation of African American military aviators of World
26 War II with 42 chapters throughout the United States, and has
27 consistently provided inspiration, motivation, mentoring, and role
28 models for elementary, middle, and high school students in this
29 country; now, therefore, be it

30 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
31 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
32 portion of State Highway Route 15 between Miramar Road
33 (milepost marker 14.285) and Mercy Road (milepost marker
34 17.311), in the County of San Diego, as the Tuskegee Airmen
35 Highway; and be it further

36 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
37 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the
38 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this
39 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate

1 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
2 further
3 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
4 this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
5 author for appropriate distribution.

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