

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 6, 2012

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,
Huffman, 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: 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 prior to that time, had not been accepted into pilot training
- 5 programs in the military; and

1 WHEREAS, The Tuskegee Airmen were sent to the European
2 Theatre in 1943 and served in combat in North Africa, Sicily, and
3 Europe; and

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

10 WHEREAS, The Tuskegee Airmen unit, including its officers
11 and enlisted personnel, received three Presidential Unit Citations,
12 150 Distinguished Flying Cross and Legion of Merit awards, the
13 Red Star of Yugoslavia, nine Purple Hearts, 14 Bronze Stars, and
14 more than 700 Air Medals and Oak Leaf Cluster awards; and

15 WHEREAS, Sixty-six of the Tuskegee Airmen were killed in
16 combat, and another 33 were shot down and held as prisoners of
17 war; and

18 WHEREAS, The unqualified success of the Tuskegee Airmen
19 helped lead to the eventual integration of the United States Armed
20 Forces; and

21 WHEREAS, The record of the Tuskegee Airmen in World War
22 II was accomplished by individuals who bravely accepted the
23 challenge and proudly displayed their skill and patriotism ~~despite~~
24 *in spite of* great adversity at home and abroad; and

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

33 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
34 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
35 portion of State Highway Route 15 between Miramar Road
36 (milepost marker 14.285) and Mercy Road (milepost marker
37 17.311), in the County of San Diego, as the Tuskegee Airmen
38 Highway; and be it further

39 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
40 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the

1 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this
2 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
3 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
4 further

5 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
6 this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
7 author for appropriate distribution.

O