

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 19, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 85

Introduced by Senator Correa

February 20, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 85—Relative to the Viet Dzung Human Rights Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 85, as amended, Correa. Viet Dzung Human Rights Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 39 (Beach Boulevard) in the County of Orange as the Viet Dzung Human Rights Memorial Highway. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for 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, Prior to his death in December 2013, at the age of
2 55 years, Viet Dzung was a recognized musician, songwriter,
3 emcee, community leader, and an ardent voice for freedom, human
4 rights, and democracy, particularly in Vietnam; and
5 WHEREAS, Viet Dzung was born in Saigon, Vietnam, on
6 September 8, 1958, to a former member of parliament and a school
7 teacher; and
8 WHEREAS, After the end of the Vietnam War, he fled to
9 Singapore before moving to the United States in 1976 and being
10 reunited with his family; and

1 ~~WHEREAS, Viet Dzung's father served honorably as a South~~
2 ~~Vietnamese military police officer and suffered at the hands of a~~
3 ~~communist government as a prisoner in a concentration camp for~~
4 ~~seven years, and his mother struggled every day to support her~~
5 ~~family in postwar Vietnam; and~~

6 WHEREAS, Drawing strength from his family's refugee
7 experience, Viet Dzung was a champion involved in and leading
8 the Vietnamese American community to honor the Vietnamese
9 culture and to celebrate, defend, and press for freedoms both here
10 and in Vietnam; and

11 WHEREAS, Viet Dzung was instrumental as an organizer and
12 emcee for the annual Black April Commemoration at the Vietnam
13 War Memorial in the City of Westminster to honor United States
14 and South Vietnamese veterans and the soldiers who sacrificed
15 their lives for freedom during the Vietnam War; and

16 WHEREAS, Viet Dzung reached out to and involved thousands
17 of Vietnamese Americans, including performers, singers, students,
18 business owners, religious leaders, and nonprofit leaders, as a daily
19 voice on Radio Bolsa every morning providing news and public
20 service announcements to the largest Vietnamese American
21 community in the United States; and

22 WHEREAS, Viet Dzung, whose real name was Nguyen Ngoc
23 Hung Dung, was respected in Little Saigon and worldwide for his
24 dedication to the Vietnamese refugee community and his
25 commitment to fighting for human rights, religious freedom, and
26 democracy in Vietnam; and

27 WHEREAS, Thousands of people have been inspired by Viet
28 Dzung's activism, music, and art throughout his meaningful life;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, Viet Dzung's life serves as an example of how one
31 person can have a positive impact on those around him *or her* and
32 *in his or her* community; 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 39 (Beach Boulevard) between
36 ~~State Highway Route~~ Interstate 405 and Talbert Avenue in the
37 County of Orange as the Viet Dzung Human Rights Memorial
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.

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