

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 66**

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 99

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

[Filed with Secretary of State September 22, 2011.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 66, 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.

WHEREAS, Of all of the promises America offers, none is more precious or more elusive than the right to be free from crime and violence; and

WHEREAS, The men and women of law enforcement have the unenviable task of guaranteeing the public's safety, and it is as difficult and dangerous as it is important, as evidenced by the death of Deputy Probation Officer Irene Beatrice Rios of the Imperial County Probation Department (ICPD), who died in the line of duty on August 13, 2008 (E.O.W. 8/13/2008); and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Deputy Probation Officer Irene Rios leaves her mother, Elisabet; her father, Emilio; her sister, Eva Elena; her sister, Ana Maribel; her brother, Emilio, Jr.; a host of family and friends; and the entire ICPD family to mourn her passing and celebrate her legacy; and

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

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

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

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

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

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