

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 3, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 119

Introduced by Senator Fuller

May 12, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 119—Relative to the CHP Officer Gerald N. Harris Memorial Interchange.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 119, as amended, Fuller. CHP Officer Gerald N. Harris Memorial Interchange.

This measure would designate the Interchange at State Route 99 and *eastbound* State Route 58 in the County of ~~Kern~~, *Kern* as the CHP Officer Gerald N. Harris Memorial Interchange. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs, that shall include the star of the Department of the California Highway Patrol, showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Officer Gerald Nathan Harris was born on
2 November 19, 1938, to Sam and Juanita Harris, in the City of
3 Bakersfield, California, and had four siblings: Alan, JoAnn, ~~Melvin~~
4 *Melvin*, and Phillip; and

5 WHEREAS, Officer Harris graduated from North High School
6 in 1957, and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps shortly
7 thereafter. After several years of service, he was honorably
8 discharged on December 5, 1965; and

1 WHEREAS, Officer Harris married the love of his life, Sherril,
2 on August 25, 1961, and had a wonderful daughter, Holly, born
3 December 31, 1965, whom he treasured dearly; and

4 WHEREAS, Officer Harris was a service salesman employed
5 by Three Way Chevrolet prior to becoming a California Highway
6 Patrol Officer; and

7 WHEREAS, Officer Harris graduated from the Department of
8 the California Highway Patrol Academy in 1967 with Academy
9 Class CTC-IV-67, and was assigned to the Santa Fe Springs Area,
10 where he served for approximately one year before being
11 transferred to the Bakersfield Area, where he spent the remainder
12 of his career; and

13 WHEREAS, Officer Harris, badge number 5554, was killed in
14 the line of duty on February 27, 1974, while directing traffic at an
15 intersection in the City of Bakersfield, where he was struck by a
16 hit-and-run driver; and

17 WHEREAS, The impact of the collision left Officer Harris with
18 a broken leg and other injuries, which, at the time, did not appear
19 to be life threatening; and

20 WHEREAS, When Officer Harris subsequently required special
21 medical treatment, the president of Continental Telephone in the
22 City of Bakersfield volunteered his company's medical plane to
23 take him to a hospital in San Francisco for special treatment, but
24 Officer Harris, unfortunately, died shortly thereafter from an
25 embolism; and

26 WHEREAS, Officer Harris is survived by his wife, Sherril, his
27 daughter, Holly, and two siblings, Alan and Melvin, and two
28 grandchildren, Tyler, born February 13, 1991, and Christian, born
29 June 9, 1994; and

30 WHEREAS, Officer Harris was a hardworking, dedicated officer
31 who loved his job and enjoyed the people with whom he worked,
32 and who, throughout his career, received several letters
33 commending him on his exemplary service, including one from
34 then Wasco Chief of Police, Robert Duke, and several thank you
35 letters from those whose lives he saved or changed dramatically;
36 and

37 WHEREAS, Officer Harris was good natured, gracious, honest
38 and loyal, and would always go out of his way to help those in
39 need. In his spare time, he enjoyed weight lifting, the Police

1 Olympics, softball, volunteering to teach bicycle safety to children
2 in schools, and spending time with his family and friends; and

3 WHEREAS, In recognition of Officer Harris's great
4 contributions and sacrifice in serving the Department of the
5 California Highway Patrol and the citizens of California, it would
6 be fitting to designate the Interchange at State Route 99 and
7 *eastbound* State Route 58 in the County of Kern, California, in his
8 honor; now, therefore, be it

9 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
10 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
11 Interchange at State Route 99 and *eastbound* State Route 58 in the
12 County of ~~Kern~~, *Kern* as the CHP Officer Gerald N. Harris
13 Memorial Interchange; and be it further

14 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
15 to determine the ~~costs~~ *cost* of erecting the appropriate signs, that
16 shall include the star of the Department of the California Highway
17 Patrol, consistent with the signing requirements for the state
18 highway system, showing ~~these~~ *this* special ~~designations~~, ~~and~~
19 *designation and*, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources
20 covering the cost, to erect those signs; and be it further

21 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
22 this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
23 for appropriate distribution.

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