

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 84

Introduced by Assembly Member O'Donnell

June 8, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 84—Relative to the Officer Joe Mata and Officer Roberto C. Sanchez Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 84, as introduced, O'Donnell. Officer Joe Mata and Officer Roberto C. Sanchez Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate the portion of State Highway Route 110 between Exit 1A and Exit 1B in the City of Los Angeles as the Officer Joe Mata and Officer Roberto C. Sanchez Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Officer Robert Joe Mata was a police officer for
2 the Los Angeles Police Department; and

3 WHEREAS, Officer Mata was born on October 10, 1973, in
4 Los Angeles, California. He graduated from Etiwanda High School
5 in June of 1991; and

6 WHEREAS, Officer Mata enlisted in the United States Navy
7 in 1992, serving on the destroyer U.S.S. Fletcher (DD-992). During
8 his service to our country, Officer Mata was awarded the National
9 Defense Service Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (First

1 Award), and the Southwest Asia Service Medal, which is awarded
2 to those naval personnel who patrolled the area near Iraq during
3 the months after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait; and

4 WHEREAS, Upon discharge from the Navy, Officer Mata
5 settled in Hawaii, where he met and married his wife, Holly. They
6 moved to Whittier, California, and had two daughters,
7 Kaleikaumaka and Pi-ilani; and

8 WHEREAS, Officer Mata entered the Los Angeles Police
9 Academy on January 22, 1996. He served his probationary time
10 in the Newton area, where his handling of a 15 year-old potential
11 runaway was recognized. Office Mata convinced the troubled teen
12 to stay home and seek help to work through his troubles with his
13 parent; and

14 WHEREAS, After passing his probation, Officer Mata moved
15 on to the Southeast area. Officer Mata's final division of
16 assignment was in the Harbor area, where he was assigned to the
17 Specialized Enforcement Unit, Gang Detail; and

18 WHEREAS, On September 19, 2000, Officer Mata was killed
19 in a vehicle accident in the Harbor area while responding to a call
20 for backup from another officer who was investigating a stolen
21 vehicle; and

22 WHEREAS, Officer Roberto C. Sanchez was a police officer
23 for the Los Angeles Police Department; and

24 WHEREAS, Officer Sanchez was born on September 19, 1981,
25 in Mexico City to his loving parents, Francisco and Patricia
26 Sanchez; and

27 WHEREAS, The Sanchez family moved to Santa Ana,
28 California, where Officer Sanchez attended Saddleback High
29 School; and

30 WHEREAS, Officer Sanchez entered the Los Angeles Police
31 Academy in 2008, believing that being a police officer was the
32 most honorable way of serving the community and protecting the
33 innocent; and

34 WHEREAS, Officer Sanchez married his wife, Sonia, on June
35 14, 2009; and

36 WHEREAS, Officer Sanchez honorably served with the Los
37 Angeles Police Department for six years. His assignments included
38 the areas of West Los Angeles, Newton, and Harbor, and he worked
39 with his partner Rich Medina; and

1 WHEREAS, Officer Sanchez enjoyed spending time with his
2 family and friends, and volunteering at his niece’s school, where
3 he read to students for “Read Across America”; and

4 WHEREAS, On May 3, 2014, Officer Sanchez and his partner
5 were in pursuit of a vehicle after attempting to make a traffic stop.
6 While continuing the pursuit, Officer Sanchez’s vehicle was struck
7 by another vehicle near the intersection of Senator Avenue and
8 Anaheim Street. Officer Sanchez and his partner were transported
9 to a local hospital where Officer Sanchez later succumbed to his
10 injuries; and

11 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to memorialize the service and
12 sacrifices of Officers Mata and Sanchez by designating a portion
13 of State Highway Route 110 in their honor; now, therefore, be it

14 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
15 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
16 portion of State Highway Route 110 between Exit 1A and Exit 1B
17 in the City of Los Angeles as the Officer Joe Mata and Officer
18 Roberto C. Sanchez Memorial Highway; and be it further

19 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
20 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the
21 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this
22 special designation, and upon receiving donations from nonstate
23 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
24 further

25 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
26 of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
27 for appropriate distribution.