

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 4

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 99

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 4—Relative to the Esperanza Firefighters Memorial Highway.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 12, 2007.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 4, Benoit. Esperanza Firefighters Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate State Highway Route 243 as the Esperanza Firefighters Memorial Highway. The measure also would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing that special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs.

WHEREAS, On October 21, 2006, at 1:12 a.m., a wildfire known as the Esperanza Fire began at the Esperanza and San Gorgonio Wash in Riverside County and 40,200 acres burned; and

WHEREAS, Five heroic firefighters of Engine Company #57, Mark Loutzenhiser, Daniel Hoover-Najera, Jason McKay, Jess McLean, and Pablo Cerda, fought valorously to contain the fire while protecting lives and property; and

WHEREAS, While unselfishly serving their community with great honor and dedication, on October 26, 2006, these five firefighters were overrun by the flames of the Esperanza Fire; and

WHEREAS, The untimely death of these five firefighters in the pursuit of the highest ideals of public safety has brought immense sorrow and loss to the people of the local community and the state as well as the countless individuals whose lives they touched; and

WHEREAS, These brave firefighters leave behind families and friends with loving memories of their unselfish and heroic deeds; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates State Highway Route 243 as the “Esperanza Firefighters Memorial Highway” in memory of the firefighters of Engine Company #57 who lost their lives; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested to determine the cost of appropriate signs for State Highway Route 243, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature also proposes a memorial to be erected at one of the turnouts overlooking the valley below with a plaque honoring

these five brave firefighters. This memorial is to be funded by private donations and organizations dedicated to honoring these true heroes; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the author for appropriate distribution.