
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Senator Lena Gonzalez, Chair

2021 - 2022 Regular

Bill No: ACR 32

Hearing Date: 06/24/2021

Author: Megan Dahle

Version: 4/5/2021

Urgency: No

Fiscal: Yes

Consultant: Katie Bonin

SUBJECT: High Desert State Prison Correctional Officer Richard Bianchi, Jr., Memorial Highway

DIGEST: This resolution designates a portion of State Route 36 near Susanville, from post mile 25.356 at State Route 139 to post mile R29.390 at Junction State Route 395, in the County of Lassen as the High Desert State Prison Correctional Officer Richard Bianchi, Jr., Memorial Highway.

ANALYSIS:

The committee has adopted a policy regarding the naming of state highways or structures. Under the policy, the committee will consider only those resolutions that meet all of the following criteria:

- 1) The person being honored must have provided extraordinary public service or some exemplary contribution to the public good and have a connection to the community where the highway or structure is located.
- 2) The person being honored must be deceased.
- 3) The naming must be done without cost to the state. Costs for signs and plaques must be paid by local or private sources.
- 4) The author or co-author of the resolution must represent the district in which the facility is located, and the resolution must identify the specific highway segment or structure being named.
- 5) The segment of highway being named must not exceed five miles in length.
- 6) The proposed designation must reflect a community consensus and be without local opposition.
- 7) The proposed designation may not supersede an existing designation unless the sponsor can document that a good faith effort has uncovered no opposition to rescinding the prior designation.

This resolution designates a portion of State Route 36 near Susanville, from post mile 25.356 at State Route 139 to post mile R29.390 at Junction State Route 395, in the County of Lassen as the High Desert State Prison Correctional Officer Richard Bianchi, Jr., Memorial Highway. The Department of Transportation is requested to determine the cost of appropriate signage showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, erect those signs.

COMMENTS:

- 1) *Purpose.* The purpose of this resolution is to memorialize the life and service of High Desert State Prison Correctional Officer Richard Bianchi, Jr.
- 2) *Background.* Officer Bianchi was killed in a single-vehicle crash in the early morning of June 25, 2020, while on his way to provide security coverage at a Redding hospital. Officer Bianchi began his service with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in 2010 after serving in the United States Air Force.

Officer Bianchi is survived by his wife, Pam, and two, children Richie and Rachel.

- 3) *Consistent with committee policy.* This resolution is consistent with the provisions of the committee's policy on highway designation.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

POSITIONS: (Communicated to the committee before noon on Friday, June 18, 2021.)

SUPPORT:

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
California Professional Firefighters

OPPOSITION:

None received.

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