

- 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 the portion of Interstate 710 from post mile 19.730 to post mile 24.466 in the County of Los Angeles as the Detective Raul Vasquez Gama 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 Detective Raul Vasquez Gama.
- 2) *Background.* Detective Raul Vasquez Gama began his career as a deputy with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department in 1987 and served for more than 20 years. While serving he became the team leader for the City of Cudahy in which he introduced the "Meet a Deputy" program, a model of community policing now utilized by all Los Angeles County Sheriff stations to improve community relations.

Detective Gama was awarded a Medal of Valor in 2004 for rescuing four children and their parents after a runaway Union Pacific freight train crashed into the family's home. He further received more than 52 commendations in his career with the Sheriff's Department.

Detective Gama is survived by his wife Sandra, four children Monica, Crystal, Anita, and Marco Antonio, mother Ruth V. Gama, sister Hilda (Lance) Severson, and nieces Natalie Stone and Emily Severson.

- 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 Wednesday, April 21.)

SUPPORT:

Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

OPPOSITION:

None received.

-- END --