



ACR-12 Officer Robert Joe Mata and Officer Roberto C. Sanchez Memorial Highway. (2015-2016)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 12

CHAPTER 151

Relative to the Officer Robert Joe Mata and Officer Roberto C. Sanchez Memorial Highway.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 03, 2015.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 12, O'Donnell. Officer Robert 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 Robert 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

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

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

WHEREAS, Officer Mata enlisted in the United States Navy in 1992, serving on the destroyer U.S.S. Fletcher (DD-992). During his service to our country, Officer Mata was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (First Award), and the Southwest Asia Service Medal, which is awarded to those naval personnel who patrolled the area near Iraq during the months after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Officer Sanchez enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, and volunteering at his niece's school, where he read to students for "Read Across America"; and

WHEREAS, On May 3, 2014, Officer Sanchez and his partner were in pursuit of a vehicle after attempting to make a traffic stop. While continuing the pursuit, Officer Sanchez's vehicle was struck by another vehicle near the intersection of Senator Avenue and Anaheim Street in Los Angeles, California. Officer Sanchez and his partner were transported to a local hospital where Officer Sanchez later succumbed to his injuries; and

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

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

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested 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 the cost, to erect those signs; and be it further

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