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ACR-14 Deputy Sheriff Yevhen “Eugene” Kostiuchenko Memorial Highway. (2015-2016)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 14

CHAPTER 114

Relative to the Deputy Sheriff Yevhen “Eugene” Kostiuchenko Memorial Highway.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 21, 2015.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 14, Irwin. Deputy Sheriff Yevhen “Eugene” Kostiuchenko Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 101 in the County of Ventura as the Deputy Sheriff Yevhen “Eugene” Kostiuchenko Memorial Highway. The measure would request that the Department of Transportation determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, erect those signs.

Fiscal Committee: yes

WHEREAS, Ventura County Deputy Sheriff Yevhen “Eugene” Kostiuchenko was born in Kiev, Ukraine, to Anatoliy and Nadiia Kostiuchenko on January 30, 1973, and was one of two children born to the Kostiuchenkos, including a brother Oleksandr; and

WHEREAS, Eugene was raised in Kiev, Ukraine, where he attended secondary school from 1980 through 1990. Later, he attended the Military University of Defense of Russian Federation in Moscow where he received a master’s degree in linguistics; and

WHEREAS, Eugene was fluent in four languages: Ukrainian, Russian, English, and Farsi. Eugene could also communicate in German; and

WHEREAS, Eugene achieved the rank of captain in the Ukrainian armed forces where he served from 1995 to 1999; and

WHEREAS, Eugene was a military intelligence officer and served as a liaison with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Central Intelligence Agency. Eugene held the very prestigious position of serving as the adjutant to the general of the Ukrainian army; and

WHEREAS, Eugene began his career with the County of Ventura in April 2003. He initially worked as a program administrator with the Sheriff’s Office of Emergency Services where he assisted with training and response plans for the county’s Terrorism Working Group; and

WHEREAS, On July 5, 2007, Eugene was hired as a deputy sheriff trainee and began the rigorous five-month training program at the Sheriff’s Regional Training Center; and

WHEREAS, Eugene was a member of Class 2007-2 that began with 25 sheriff's recruits and graduated 20. Through Eugene's discipline, dedication, and work ethic, he was one of the successful 3 percent who made it all the way from the initial application process to graduation; and

WHEREAS, Eugene was sworn in as a deputy sheriff on November 29, 2007, and worked in the Detention Services Division until October 2013. After working in two custody facilities, he was transferred to patrol in the City of Camarillo where he began patrol training; and

WHEREAS, Eugene completed patrol training in April 2014, and worked as a patrol deputy in Camarillo, proudly serving the residents of that city; and

WHEREAS, Eugene was an avid runner who could often be seen running through the streets of Camarillo as he trained for the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay. This event, often referred to as the ultimate foot pursuit, is a difficult relay race consisting of 120 miles and 20 stages that starts in Baker, California, and ends in Las Vegas, Nevada. Eugene was a member of the Sheriff's Office elite competitive team and would often run the hardest and longest legs of the race; and

WHEREAS, On October 28, 2014, Eugene had completed an early morning traffic stop and was walking back to his patrol vehicle when he was struck and killed by an intoxicated driver; and

WHEREAS, Eugene enforced the law with enthusiasm but was also kind, compassionate, and caring. He loved animals and had future aspirations to become a canine handler and a member of the Sheriff's Bomb Squad. Those goals were not achieved due to his untimely passing, but there is no doubt he would have been successful in those endeavors as he was in all the other areas of his life; and

WHEREAS, Eugene will be truly missed by all who had the pleasure and honor of knowing him; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates the 2.040-mile portion of State Highway Route 101 between Lewis Road/Junction State Route 34 at mile post 13.848 and Las Posas Road at mile post 15.888 in the County of Ventura as the Deputy Sheriff Yevhen "Eugene" Kostiuhenko 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 that 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.