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**ACR-2 Police Officer Jose “Gil” Vega and Police Officer Lesley Zerebny Memorial Highway.** (2017-2018)

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**Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2**

**CHAPTER 125**

Relative to the Officer Jose “Gil” Vega and Officer Lesley Zerebny Memorial Highway.

[ Filed with Secretary of State August 30, 2017. ]

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

ACR 2, Mayes. Police Officer Jose “Gil” Vega and Police Officer Lesley Zerebny Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway 111 in the County of Riverside as the Police Officer Jose “Gil” Vega and Police Officer Lesley Zerebny Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal Committee: yes

WHEREAS, Jose “Gil” Vega began his career in law enforcement as a reserve police officer for the Indio Police Department in 1982 and became a reserve police officer for the Palm Springs Police Department later that year; and

WHEREAS, Officer Vega became a police officer trainee with the Palm Springs Police Department in 1985, and, after graduating from the police academy, he was promoted to a police officer later that year; and

WHEREAS, In his distinguished 34-year career in law enforcement, Officer Vega had various assignments. He was a very successful detective with the Riverside Auto Theft Interdiction Detail and with the Property Crimes Division of the Palm Springs Police Department. Officer Vega also served on the Palm Springs Police Department's Mounted Enforcement Unit; and

WHEREAS, Officer Vega served as a training officer and, during his time with the department, trained over 30 police officers, many of whom were promoted up through the ranks; and

WHEREAS, Officer Vega was very highly decorated. He is the only officer to have been twice named the Palm Springs Police Department's “Officer of the Year,” first in 1992 and then again in 2011. He received a medal in 2010 for saving the life of an infant and received a Medal of Merit in 2013. Officer Vega also received many complimentary letters regarding his excellent work performance during his time with the department; and

WHEREAS, Officer Vega was set to retire from the Palm Springs Police Department on December 28, 2016, and was to be awarded a Special Recognition Award for his 34 years of exemplary and dedicated law enforcement service; and

WHEREAS, Lesley Zerebny was born and raised in Hemet, California, and wanted to be a police officer from a very young age; and

WHEREAS, Officer Zerebny came from a family of law enforcement officers. Her father served as a California Highway Patrol officer for 30 years and her husband is a deputy in the Riverside County Sheriff's Department; and

WHEREAS, Officer Zerebny was hired as a police officer trainee by the Palm Springs Police Department in 2014 and was promoted to a police officer after graduating from the police academy; and

WHEREAS, Officer Zerebny had a great attitude toward her career as a police officer, never hesitating to take on additional tasks and offering to help out the department and her fellow officers in any way she could. After giving birth to a daughter in 2016, she returned to work early to help out; and

WHEREAS, Officer Zerebny was always smiling and full of energy. She received many compliments from residents and fellow law enforcement officers and always strove to be the best police officer she could be; and

WHEREAS, While responding to a domestic disturbance call, Officer Vega and Officer Zerebny were fatally shot in Palm Springs on October 8, 2016; 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 111 from Overture Drive (post mile 58.478) to West San Rafael Drive (post mile 54.955) in the County of Riverside as the Police Officer Jose "Gil" Vega and Police Officer Lesley Zerebny 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.