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ACR-43 Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Corporal Rich Schlesiger Memorial Highway. (2017-2018)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 43

CHAPTER 131

Relative to Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Corporal Rich Schlesiger Memorial Highway.

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

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 43, Wood. Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Corporal Rich Schlesiger Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate the portion of State Route 101 located between milepost marker 68.00 near Hookton Road and milepost marker 64.50 near the Ferndale exit in the County of Humboldt as the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Corporal Rich Schlesiger Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal Committee: yes

WHEREAS, Rich Schlesiger was born in Santa Ana, California on September 7, 1970, and in 1972, he and his family moved to Loleta, California, where Rich attended Loleta Elementary School and Fortuna Union High School; and

WHEREAS, Rich was always recognized as an outstanding athlete and exceptional person in the Eel River Valley, and his skills on the football field led Rich to attend College of the Redwoods, just two miles from his hometown; and

WHEREAS, Rich, who knew from an early age that he wanted to get involved in law enforcement, attended the 63rd Police Academy at College of the Redwoods and, in June 1991, Rich began his law enforcement career with the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, In July 1995, Rich returned to his childhood home to accept a job as a Deputy with the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, and at the time was assigned to the Willow Creek/Hoopa community, working patrol operations protecting the citizens of Humboldt County for four years before moving to the superior court as a bailiff; and

WHEREAS, In August 2001, Rich became a detective with the Sheriff's Criminal Investigation Division, where he was assigned to felony assault and homicide cases, and where, because of his hard and diligent work, he was promoted to investigator with the division, quickly becoming the senior investigator taking on the most complex homicide and high profile felony cases in the county; and

WHEREAS, In April 2013, Rich made the decision to transfer to patrol operations and work back in the area where he grew up, Loleta, California; and

WHEREAS, He accepted the Eel River Valley Deputy position which was funded by the Bear River Tribe, and he worked with the tribe and citizens of Loleta and Eel River Valley to stop escalating crime that was reported in the area; and

WHEREAS, Rich quickly became a popular sight and gained the trust and admiration of the many people living in the Eel River Valley; and

WHEREAS, Rich's family and friends could not have been more proud of Rich's commitment to protecting and serving Humboldt County, where Rich always drew a crowd of admirers and where his strong athletic build and warm character were welcoming to the people Rich served; and

WHEREAS, In January 2014, Rich was diagnosed with a rare form of brain cancer, and on December 30, 2014, he was forced to medically retire at the rank of Corporal; and

WHEREAS, On September 7, 2015, on his 45th birthday, surrounded by his loving wife Morgan, his three children, Chaz, Cade, and Callee, and friends, Rich passed away, which was a devastating loss to his family, friends, and the Humboldt County community; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of Rich's great contributions and sacrifice in serving the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office and the citizens of Humboldt County, it would be fitting to designate the portion of State Route 101 located between milepost marker 68.00 near Hookton Road and milepost marker 64.50 near the Ferndale exit in the County of Humboldt in his memory; 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 Route 101 located between milepost marker 68.00 near Hookton Road and milepost marker 64.50 near the Ferndale exit in the County of Humboldt as the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Corporal Rich Schlesiger Memorial Highway; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested to determine the costs of erecting the appropriate signs, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering 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 author for appropriate distribution.