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ACR-250 Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overcrossing. (2017-2018)





Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 250

CHAPTER 208

Relative to the Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overcrossing.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 07, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 250, Holden. Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overcrossing.

This measure would designate the North Arroyo Boulevard Overcrossing in the City of Pasadena as the Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overcrossing in honor of the 6 men who lost their lives as a result of the Foothill Bridge collapse. 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, Few people know about the Foothill Bridge collapse that occurred on the Foothill Freeway, which consists of contiguous segments of Interstate 210 (I-210) and State Route 210 (SR 210) near Devil's Gate in the City of Pasadena (hereafter the Foothill Freeway) on Tuesday, October 17, 1972, but the memory remains for the families of those who died during that tragedy; and

WHEREAS, When the bridge collapsed over the Arroyo Seco, six workers who were working on the bridge were killed; and

WHEREAS, The bridge was being built to pass the Foothill Freeway over the Arroyo Seco below Devil's Gate Reservoir, near Arroyo Boulevard and Rosemont Avenue in the City of Pasadena; and

WHEREAS, At approximately 1:30 p.m. on October 17, 1972, faulty scaffolding on a 60-foot stretch of the Foothill Freeway collapsed while concrete was being poured for the bridge construction, crushing victims who were under the construction at the time of the collapse; and

WHEREAS, Between 17 and 35 workers were on the job when the bridge collapsed and many leaped into action to assist others or run to safety; and

WHEREAS, An army of 500 rescue workers labored throughout the night to locate missing workers who were buried under six feet of concrete; and

WHEREAS, The six workmen killed while working on the bridge included Jesus Jose Quinonos of Pasadena, Richard Calleros of Santa Ana, Frank Scharf of Upland, Robert Queenan of Alhambra, Hector Delgado Gonzalez of Pico Rivera, and James Glass of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, The bodies of three of the workmen who were entombed in a 100-ton mass of concrete were found by rescue workers who used jackhammers to rip through the debris of a fallen 100-foot-high freeway bridge section; and

WHEREAS, The other three workmen were killed when building materials plummeted from 100 feet high to the ground, carrying dozens of workers to the ground; and

WHEREAS, A total of 21 men were seriously injured with six of them listed in critical condition; and

WHEREAS, Search and rescue crews, construction workers, fire fighters, and police officers from nearby cities and the County of Los Angeles assisted in the rescue efforts; and

WHEREAS, The bridge collapse caused an unexpected tragedy that created intense pain for families of those who were injured or died as a result; and

WHEREAS, It would be an appropriate tribute to name the North Arroyo Boulevard Overcrossing in the City of Pasadena as the Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overcrossing in honor of the six men who lost their lives over the Arroyo Seco; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the North Arroyo Boulevard Overcrossing is hereby designated as the Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overcrossing in the City of Pasadena in honor of the six men who lost their lives in the Foothill Bridge collapse; 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.