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SCR-124 Harold Del Ponte Memorial Highway. (2017-2018)

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 124

CHAPTER 119

Relative to the Harold Del Ponte Memorial Highway.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 06, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 124, McGuire. Harold Del Ponte Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 101 in the County of Del Norte as the Harold Del Ponte Memorial Highway. The measure would 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, Harold Del Ponte was born in the City of Crescent City in the County of Del Norte on December 31, 1916, and spent his life serving the County of Del Norte and surrounding areas as a leader and public servant in multiple capacities; and

WHEREAS, Del Ponte received his elementary education in a one-room schoolhouse in Terwer Valley, attended Del Norte High School in the City of Crescent City, and earned a degree in forestry from Washington State University; and

WHEREAS, Del Ponte worked for the United States Forest Service in the Counties of Del Norte, Trinity, and Plumas before being drafted into the United States Air Force during World War II; and

WHEREAS, When Del Ponte returned to the County of Del Norte, he ran the family dairy farm and remained in the cattle trade for the rest of his working years; and

WHEREAS, Del Ponte was extremely active in his community, serving with multiple local boards and organizations during his life; and

WHEREAS, Del Ponte was the longest-running member of the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors, serving from 1953 to 1973, where he represented the county during the devastating 1955 and 1964 floods and the 1964 tsunami, and was chairman of the board for five years; and

WHEREAS, Del Ponte served on the Del Norte Planning Commission for 12 years, on the Del Norte County Knife and Fork Club for six years, as the director of the Del Norte County Fair for nine years, as a 4-H community leader for more than 20 years, and as a director and lifetime member of the Del Norte County Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, Del Ponte was a former president and member of the Klamath Chamber of Commerce for more than 50 years, the Del Norte County Chamber of Commerce for approximately 40 years, the Del Norte County Farm Bureau for 20 years, and the Kiwanis Club for 48 years, for which he was also a former Lieutenant Governor; and

WHEREAS, Del Ponte was valued and honored by his community, receiving the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Del Norte Unified School District and serving as the Grand Marshal of the local Fourth of July parade in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Del Ponte also served as a member of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board for four years, and was a weather observer for the National Weather Service for 55 years, which earned him multiple awards, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Benjamin Franklin Award for more than 20,075 weather observations over 55 years; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of over 50 years of service above and beyond the call of duty to the County of Del Norte, Del Ponte was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1997 by former United States Congressman Frank Riggs; and

WHEREAS, To honor Harold Del Ponte's decades of service to the region, it would be a fitting tribute to designate a portion of State Highway Route 101 in his honor; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates the portion of State Highway Route 101 in the County of Del Norte that is bordered on the south by the county line separating the Counties of Del Norte and Humboldt and continuing north for two miles, from DN post mile M 0.0 to DN post mile R 2.0, as the Harold Del Ponte 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 Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author for appropriate distribution.