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SCR-169 Willie Mays Highway. (2023-2024)

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 169

CHAPTER 207

Relative to the Willie Mays Highway.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 10, 2024.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 169, Dodd. Willie Mays Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of Interstate 80 in the City and County of San Francisco as the Willie Mays 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, On June 19th, 2024, the world bid farewell to the legendary Willie Mays, who passed away at the age of 93; and

WHEREAS, Revered by many as the greatest to ever grace the baseball diamond, Mays's career was nothing short of extraordinary; and

WHEREAS, He was elected to play in 24 All-Star games, won the Rookie of the Year award, secured two Most Valuable Player (MVP) titles, and earned 12 Gold Glove awards, and his addition to the Hall of Fame in 1979 was a testament to his unparalleled skill and his iconic presence on the field, playing the game with unmatched flair, charisma, and grace; and

WHEREAS, A true patriot, Willie Mays's contributions extended far beyond his athletic achievements, as he served in the United States Army during the Korean War, where he continued to share his love for baseball with his fellow servicemen; and

WHEREAS, As one of the first Black players to play Major League Baseball, Mays broke barriers and inspired countless individuals to pursue their passion for the game, leaving an indelible mark on the sport while changing the minds of society during the civil rights movement; and

WHEREAS, In 2015, in recognition of his extraordinary talent and his unwavering dedication to uplifting young athletes, President Barack Obama awarded Willie Mays the Presidential Medal of Freedom, a prestigious honor which celebrated not only his remarkable accomplishments on the field, but also his impactful community service, steadfast commitment to youth sports, and service for the greater good; and

WHEREAS, Today, Willie Mays's legacy lives on through the "Say Hey! Foundation," which he founded to promote baseball among underprivileged youth, with the mission to ensure that every child has the opportunity to play baseball by providing coaching, equipment, and community support to make this dream a reality; 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 Interstate 80 between Postmile 3.836 and Postmile 5.700 in the City and County of San Francisco as the Willie Mays 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 the 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.