

Assembly Concurrent Resolution**No. 58****Introduced by Assembly Member Williams**

April 22, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 58—Relative to memorial paths and access ways.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 58, as introduced, Williams. Ralph Fertig Memorial Bicycle-Pedestrian Path and the Peter Douglas Coastal Access Way.

This measure would designate the bicycle-pedestrian path constructed as part of the project to widen State Highway Route 101 in the County of Ventura as the Ralph Fertig Memorial Bicycle-Pedestrian Path and the pedestrian undercrossing of State Highway Route 101 in the community of La Conchita in the County of Ventura as the Peter Douglas Coastal Access Way.

The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing each of these special designations and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering the cost of the signs for which the donations were made, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Ralph Fertig, a longtime bicycle advocate in Santa
- 2 Barbara of such consistency, durability, and selflessness that his
- 3 presence achieved an almost geologic aspect, passed away on July
- 4 18, 2014; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Ralph Fertig, a lynch-pin of bicycle activism in
- 6 the Santa Barbara area and statewide, raised the profile of bicycling

1 in Santa Barbara and was responsible for bringing the 1998 ProBike
2 conference to Santa Barbara; and

3 WHEREAS, Ralph Fertig also served as the Regional Director
4 of the California Association of Bicycling Organization (CABO)
5 for the Central Coast for many years; and

6 WHEREAS, Quiet, unassuming, and absolutely dogged, Ralph
7 Fertig made it his mission for more than 20 years to attend every
8 transportation planning meeting to bear witness to the need for
9 more space on the roads for bicycles; and

10 WHEREAS, To an uncommon extent, Ralph Fertig understood
11 the complicated anatomy of transportation funding; he knew where
12 the money was hidden, what it had been set aside for, and far better
13 than most, he understood the rules and regulations guiding the
14 expenditure of those funds; and

15 WHEREAS, Ralph Fertig was respectful, positive, and persistent
16 and was the first local bicycle advocate to consistently assess and
17 provide public comment on the needs of the bicycling community;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Peter Douglas, the former Executive Director of
20 the California Coastal Commission, passed away during the night
21 on Sunday, April 1, 2012, at his sister's home in La Quinta,
22 California at 69 years of age after a long battle with cancer; and

23 WHEREAS, Peter Douglas was the commission's
24 longest-serving executive director, a position he held from 1985
25 to 2011, inclusive. Prior to working for the commission, he served
26 in the Legislature as an aide to then-Assembly Member Alan
27 Siertoy (D-Beverly Hills), and as a committee consultant. During
28 that time he was responsible for the drafting and passage of
29 Proposition 20 (the Coastal Initiative) in 1972, as well as the
30 California Coastal Act of 1976 which created the California Coastal
31 Commission; and

32 WHEREAS, Over the decades, Peter Douglas' name has become
33 synonymous with coastal protection. His accomplishments are too
34 numerous to list, but he played a part in creating, acquiring, or
35 preserving many coastal parks and state beaches, campgrounds,
36 trails, and overnight hostels, including Crystal Cove, Garrapata,
37 Tollowa Dunes, Steep Ravine and Sea West State Parks, San
38 Onofre and Doheney Beach State Campgrounds, the Monterey
39 Bay Recreational Trail, the Avila Lighthouse Trail, the Point
40 Buchon Trail, and many others; and

1 WHEREAS, Peter Douglas also worked to protect California's
2 ocean waters from offshore oil development and other industrial
3 practices. During his 34-year tenure at the commission, Peter
4 Douglas earned the love, respect, and loyalty of his staff, and
5 inspired environmental advocates and stewards statewide and
6 beyond. He will be forever remembered for his kind heart and
7 unpredictable sense of humor; and

8 WHEREAS, Peter Douglas was the first recipient of the national
9 Julius A. Stratton "Champion of the Coast" award for leadership
10 in coastal management at Coastal Zone '95, an international,
11 biennial symposium on coastal zone management. He provided
12 technical assistance on coastal management issues to other
13 countries and served on the China-United States panel on integrated
14 coastal management and was a member of the first National
15 Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Science Advisory
16 Board and served on the National Academy of Sciences Committee
17 on Science and Policy for the Coastal Ocean; and

18 WHEREAS, In 2008, the Department of Transportation
19 approached the California Coastal Commission with a plan to
20 improve State Highway Route 101 in the Counties of Ventura and
21 Santa Barbara. This ambitious proposal involved adding a carpool
22 lane, bicycle lane, and a pedestrian undercrossing, and other safety
23 and access improvements. Peter Douglas suggested changes to the
24 project that involved a major redesign and, when all was said and
25 done, the department proceeded with his suggestions; now,
26 therefore, be it

27 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
28 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
29 bicycle-pedestrian path (Class 1 Bicycle path) constructed as part
30 of the project to widen State Highway Route 101 (US 101 Carpool
31 Lane Improvement Project), from Mobil Pier Road to Bates Road
32 in the County of Ventura, as the Ralph Fertig Memorial
33 Bicycle-Pedestrian Path; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Legislature hereby designates the pedestrian
35 undercrossing of State Highway Route 101 in the community of
36 La Conchita in the County of Ventura as the Peter Douglas Coastal
37 Access Way; and be it further

38 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
39 to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the
40 signing requirements for the state highway system, showing each

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1 of these special designations and, upon receiving donations from
2 nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost of the signs for which
3 the donations were made, to erect those signs; and be it further
4 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
5 of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
6 for appropriate distribution.

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ACR 58 (Williams)

Ralph Fertig Memorial Bicycle-Pedestrian Path & Peter Douglas Coastal Access Way

SUMMARY

ACR 58 honors Ralph Fertig's bicycle advocacy and Peter Douglas's coastal advocacy. Both of were strong supporters of California and their communities

BACKGROUND

Ralph Fertig was a long time bicycle advocate and former President of the Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition, who passed away on July 18th, 2014.

Ralph joined a group of cyclists whose only mission at the time was to improve local bicycling conditions. Within a few months the group became known as the Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition. Ralph served as president of the Bicycle Coalition for most of the next two decades. He also served as the Regional Director of the California Association of Bicycling Organizations (CABO) for the Central Coast, and was responsible for bringing the ProBike conference to Santa Barbara in 1998.

Ralph was a relentless cyclist who attended hundreds of local public meetings and met with Caltrans and other highway officials on a regular basis to promote better trails and bike lanes. Without Ralph, the bicycle-pedestrian path constructed as part of the project to widen State Highway Route 101 would not have been possible.

Peter Douglas was well-regarded an effective advocate for Californians and their access to the coast. Peter served in the California Legislature as an assistant to Assemblymember Alan Siertoy (D-Beverly Hills), and as a committee consultant. During Mr. Douglas's time in the Legislature he was played a part in drafting and passing Prop 20 (the Coastal Initiative), and the California Coastal Act of 1976 which created the Coastal Commission. Peter served as the Executive Director of the Commission for a record 26 years.

Peter was a relentless advocate for coastal protection. He was instrumental in creating, acquiring or preserving coastal parks and state beaches, campgrounds, trails and overnight hostels. He also worked to protect California's coast and

ocean from offshore oil development and other industrial practices. Further, Peter was instrumental in ensuring the bicycle-pedestrian path named in ACR 58 was on the coastal side of the State Highway Route 101.

Peter passed away after a battle with cancer in April 2012. He was 69 years old.

NEED FOR THE BILL

ACR 58 names the local bicycle-pedestrian pathway on Highway 101 as the Ralph Fertig Memorial Bicycle-Pedestrian Path, and names the pedestrian undercrossing off of Highway 101 as the Peter Douglas Coastal Access Way.

ACR 58 recognizes these men for the giants they were in the fields of cycling advocacy and coastal protection.

SUPPORT

- City of Santa Barbara, Mayor Helene Schneider
- Coalition for Sustainable Transportation
- Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition
- Santa Barbara Car Free
- Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
- University California, Santa Barbara Associated Student Bike Committee
- 5 Individuals

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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