

Date of Hearing:

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Jim Frazier, Chair

ACR 107 (Melendez) – As Amended August 28, 2019

SUBJECT: CHP Sergeant Steven L. Licon Memorial Highway

SUMMARY: Designates a portion of Interstate 15 (I-15) in Solano County as the "CHP Sergeant Steven L. Licon Memorial Highway." Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Recounts the life and accomplishments of Sergeant Licon, a member of the California Highway Patrol who lost his life on April 6, 2019, in the line of duty.
- 2) Designates the portion of I-15 from State Route 74 to the crossing at Lake Street in Riverside County as the "CHP Sergeant Steven L. Licon Memorial Highway."
- 3) Requests that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing the special designation and, upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

EXISTING LAW: Assigns Caltrans the responsibility of operating and maintaining state highways. This includes the installation and maintenance of highway signs.

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown, but the resolution requests that Caltrans only erect the appropriate signage upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering the cost.

COMMENTS: According to the author, "Steven Lawrence Licon was born July 5, 1965, in Palm Springs, California, and was the oldest of three children; Steve was raised in the community of Anaheim Hills, California, in the County of Orange and was a graduate of Canyon Hills High School. Steve entered the California Highway Patrol Academy on August 20, 1990, as a cadet and successfully completed his academy training and was assigned to the CHP Santa Ana Area on January 10, 1991; while working, Steve continued his education at Rancho Santiago Community College. Steve's genuine love for the job inspired him to continue training and to achieve his personal goals; he also quickly acclimated himself to the hectic pace of the Santa Ana CHP office and began training to ride an enforcement motorcycle. Steve had a passion for riding motorcycles anywhere, dirt or street; on August 31, 1995, Steve successfully completed the CHP's Motorcycle Enforcement Training Program and became part of the Santa Ana CHP's Motor Squad. Steve was a skilled rider and easily achieved the status of Certified Motorcycle Training Officer shortly thereafter; his riding skills were also put to good use when he became part of the Protective Services Detail that escorted dignitaries and officials from all over the world. Steve's accolades didn't just stop with motorcycles; he successfully completed Intermediate Accident Investigation courses, became a Drug Recognition Expert, a departmental range instructor, and a firearms inspector.

After 12 years on road patrol duties, Steve was promoted to Sergeant and reported to the CHP Baldwin Park Area on December 2, 2003; Steve continued his great work ethic and quickly became part of the Baldwin Park Motor Squad as a supervisor. Steve was instrumental in recruiting motor riders and made positive contributions to the weapons unit at the CHP Baldwin

Park Area; Steve was trained as a tactical supervisor and responded to numerous critical incidents throughout his career, assuming the role of incident commander. After spending 10 years in the Baldwin Park area, Steve moved closer to home and transferred to the Riverside area on January 1, 2013; Steve assumed relatively the same supervisory duties as he had in Baldwin Park and held the esteemed title of "S-1," Senior Sergeant. Steve was instrumental in the new weapons transition team and was a supervisor with the Speed Enforcement Unit assigned to the CHP Inland Division; he was engaged in the community and was the detail leader for the area's community-oriented policing team. Steve coordinated efforts to increase the department's public trust and respond to the needs of each community served by the CHP Riverside Area; Steve was also very dedicated to his troops and was a prominent member of the Riverside CHP office. While performing the same call of duty he had for the last 28 years, riding a CHP motorcycle and protecting motorists on Interstate 15 near the City of Lake Elsinore, Steve's career ended on April 6, 2019, when he was struck and killed by a passing motorist as he was writing a traffic ticket. Steve was extremely devoted to his family and loved them above all else. Steve had a passion for riding motorcycles but also spent time with his family; whether it was hiking with them, being a loving father to his daughters, Marissa and Kelly, his sons, Nathan and Stephen, his sister, Sonya, or a doting grandfather to his grandchildren. CHP Sergeant Steven Lawrence Licon of the City of Perris in the County of Riverside was married for over 22 years to his wife, Ann; he will also be dearly missed by his mother, Helen, his father, Lawrence, and his brother, Daniel."

The California Association of Highway Patrolmen sponsored this measure to commemorate Sergeant Licon's service to the community in which he so proudly served.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

California Association of Highway Patrolmen

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Eric Thronson / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093