
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Senator Dave Cortese, Chair

2025 - 2026 Regular

Bill No: ACR 218

Hearing Date: 8/11/2026

Author: Ramos

Version: 6/3/2026 Introduced

Urgency: No

Fiscal: Yes

Consultant: Samuel Myers

SUBJECT: The Huuc Atam Highway

DIGEST: This resolution designates a section of State Route 18 from the junction with State Route 210 to Old Waterman Canyon Road in the County of San Bernardino as the “Huuc Atam Highway”.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Assigns the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) the responsibility of operating and maintaining state highways, including the installation and maintenance of highway signs.

Committee Policy:

The committee has adopted a policy regarding the naming of state highways or structures. Under the policy, the committee will consider only those resolutions that meet all of the following criteria:

- 1) The person being honored must be deceased or a former elected public official who has been out of office for at least 25 years.
- 2) The person must have provided extraordinary public service or some exemplary contribution to the public good and have a connection to the community where the highway is located.
- 3) The naming must be done without cost to the state. Costs for signs and plaques must be paid by local or private sources.

- 4) The author or co-author of the resolution must represent the district in which the facility is located, and the resolution must identify the specific highway segment or structure being named.
- 5) The segment of highway being named must not exceed five miles in length.
- 6) The proposed designation must reflect a community consensus and be without local opposition.
- 7) The proposed designation may not supersede an existing designation unless the sponsor can document that a good faith effort has uncovered no opposition to rescinding the prior designation.

This resolution:

- 1) Recounts the cultural background of the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation and Maara'yam peoples, describes the Huuc Atam, or Arrowhead landmark, and explains Huuc Atam's significance in Maara'yam culture.
- 2) Designates a portion of State Route 18 from the junction with State Route 210, at postmile T6.179, to Old Waterman Canyon Road, at postmile 9.150, in the County of San Bernardino as the "Huuc Atam Highway".
- 3) Requests Caltrans 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.

COMMENTS:

- 1) *Purpose of the resolution.* According to the author, "It is meaningful that state leaders understand the importance of honoring the Maara'yam name for the sacred Arrowhead monument that has stood over the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation homelands since time immemorial. Seeing the tribe's language on the land invites others to recognize a deeper history and encourages respect for the long presence of the Serrano people and the cultural significance of landmarks like Huuc Atam."
- 2) *Background.* Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation is a federally recognized sovereign Indian tribe located on the San Manuel Indian Reservation in the County of San Bernardino near Highland, California. They are one of the clans of the Maara'yam, also broadly referred to as the Serrano people. Formerly

called the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, the Yuhaaviatam have sought to reclaim their ancestral name, meaning “People of the Pines” to honor their cultural heritage and ancestors.

The Yuhaaviatam is the Indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys, mountains, and high deserts, having called this region home since time immemorial. As such, it is committed to remaining a productive partner in the San Bernardino region. The Yuhaaviatam is also committed to exercising its inherent sovereign right to self-governance, and providing essential services to its citizens by building infrastructure, maintaining civil services, and promoting social, economic, and cultural development.

Located on Yuhaaviatam ancestral land, near Arrowhead Springs, is the Arrowhead monument. This monument is a geological landmark that resembles a large arrowhead, fixed on the slope of Arrowhead peak. The monument is 1,375 feet long and 449 feet wide, and consists of local vegetation, including white sage, growing on light quartz. Due to its size, the monument can be seen from miles around. It is the namesake of Arrowhead Springs.

The traditional Maara’yam word for the monument is Huuc Atam. The name translates to arrowhead, literally meaning “tooth of the arrow”. Huuc Atam is sacred to Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation and plays an important part in Maara’yam culture more generally. Specifically, Maara’yam tradition holds that Huuc Atam was placed there by the Creator and is thus a sacred site.

3) *Consistent with committee policy.* This resolution is consistent with committee policy.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

POSITIONS: (Communicated to the committee by Friday, August 7, 2026)

SUPPORT:

Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (Sponsor)
City of San Bernardino
County of San Bernardino

OPPOSITION:

None received

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