

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING

ACR 96 (Rogers)

As Introduced June 11, 2025

Majority Vote

SUMMARY

Designates a specified portion of State Route 101 in the County of Humboldt as the Assembly Member Patty Berg Memorial Highway and requests that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs.

Major Provisions**COMMENTS**

Patricia "Patty" Berg was born in Seattle, Washington, on June 6, 1942. She graduated from California State University, Los Angeles, with a bachelor's degree in sociology and social welfare. In 1970 she met her future husband, Patrick Murphy, who passed away in 1987.

Patty made significant contributions to the community throughout her lifetime. She worked for the County of Humboldt and the Humboldt Senior Resource Center, where she founded and served as the executive director for the Area Agency on Aging for Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, receiving national honors and recognition for her work. She also testified before Congress and in Sacramento for policy changes to support older adults.

Patty made numerous contributions to the local community, cofounding the Redwood Coast Music Festival, the largest event for tourism in the County of Humboldt at the time. She advocated locally for Planned Parenthood, Hospice of Humboldt, and Life Plan Humboldt.

In 2002, Patty was elected to the State Assembly, where she served with distinction for six years representing District One, serving the Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Sonoma, and Trinity.

During her tenure in the State Assembly, Patty served as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care, Chair of the Select Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture, and Chair of the Legislative Women's Caucus.

In 2006, Patty led efforts to cause the state to publish a master plan on aging. Patty believed so strongly in a person's right to die as they chose that she authored "death with dignity" legislation to allow aid in dying, and, while the legislation didn't pass right away, it served as the foundation for future death with dignity legislation that did pass in 2015.

Patty passed away on November 19, 2024, at 82 years of age, leaving behind her brother, sister, stepdaughter, stepson and step-granddaughters.

According to the Author

"Patty Berg was a former Assemblywoman for the 1st Assembly district and a fierce advocate for the community. Focusing on women's rights, compassionate aging care, and fostering strong community spirit, Patty brought people together and put the community first, whether in the district or on the Assembly floor. As the Chair of the Legislative Women's caucus, leader of a state master plan on aging, and champion of "Death with Dignity" legislation, Patty brought voices to the legislature that were unheard, and made sure that they were uplifted. I am honored to memorialize Assemblymember Berg with this resolution".

Arguments in Support

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, writing in support of this bill state, "A tireless advocate for the needs of older adults, Patty served as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care and was an early champion for developing the state's Master Plan on Aging.

Twice honored as "Woman of the Year" by state representatives, Patty was a force advocating for women's equality, later chairing the Legislative Women's Caucus and working to encourage more women to run for public office. During her time in office, she received 14 "Legislator of the Year" awards, a testament to her passionate work on behalf of her constituents.

A memorial highway will be a lasting testament to Assemblywoman Berg's service to our community and the entire State of California. Patty is deserving of this very high honor".

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

Unknown, but the measure requests that Caltrans determine the cost of appropriate signage consistent with requirements for the state highway system, and only erect the appropriate signage upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering the cost.

VOTES**ASM TRANSPORTATION: 16-0-0**

YES: Wilson, Davies, Ahrens, Bennett, Caloza, Carrillo, Hart, Hoover, Jackson, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, Papan, Ransom, Rogers, Ward

UPDATED

VERSION: June 11, 2025

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FN: 0001097