

Date of Hearing: March 27, 2017

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Jim Frazier, Chair

AB 1172 (Acosta) – As Introduced February 17, 2017

SUBJECT: State highways: relinquishment

SUMMARY: Authorizes the California Transportation Commission (CTC), upon a determination that it is the best interest of the state to do so and upon an agreement between the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the City of Santa Clarita, to relinquish all or a portion of Sierra Highway (also known as Route 14U) to the city.

EXISTING LAW:

- 1) Defines a "state highway" as any roadway that is acquired, laid out, constructed, improved, or maintained as a state highway pursuant to constitutional or legislative authorization.
- 2) Statutorily identifies state highway system routes.
- 3) Specifies that it is the intent of the Legislature that the prescribed routes of the state highway system connect communities and regions of the state and that they serve the state's economy by connecting centers of commerce, industry, agriculture, mineral wealth, and recreation.

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown

COMMENTS: Each session, numerous bills authorizing CTC to relinquish segments of the state highway to local jurisdictions are passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. Relinquishment transactions are generally preceded by a negotiation of terms and conditions between the local jurisdiction and Caltrans. Once an agreement has been established, the Legislature authorizes CTC to relinquish the segment and CTC then approves the relinquishment and verifies its approval via resolution. The final step is for the Legislature to delete these segments from current law.

This bill is consistent with Caltrans' policies that encourage the relinquishment of state highways that do not serve regional or statewide transportation needs. Recipient agencies often seek relinquishment of state highways so that they can have greater control over the facility, which often serves as a local street.

The City of Santa Clarita is sponsoring this bill so that it can assume ownership of the approximately 3-mile portion of Sierra Highway between Newhall Avenue and Friendly Valley Parkway. The city wants control of the highway so that it can ensure the road is sufficiently maintained.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Janet Dawson / TRANS. /