

Date of Hearing: March 23, 2015

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
Jim Frazier, Chair  
AB 218 (Melendez) – As Introduced February 2, 2015

**SUBJECT:** State Highway Route 74

**SUMMARY:** This bill authorizes the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to relinquish a portion of State Route (SR) 74 to the County of Riverside. Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Authorizes CTC to relinquish the portion of SR 74, located within the unincorporated area east of the City of Lake Elsinore and west of the City of Perris, upon terms established by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the County of Riverside.
- 2) Specifies that the relinquishment will become effective immediately after the county recorder records the relinquishment resolution that contains CTC approval.
- 3) Provides that, on the effective date of the relinquishment, the relinquished portion of SR 74 will cease to be a state highway and may not be considered for future re-adoption as a state highway.
- 4) Requires that the County of Riverside maintain signs directing motorists to the continuation of SR 74.

**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.

State highway relinquishments provide the recipient agencies with greater control over a local transportation segment and relieve Caltrans of any further responsibility to improve, maintain, or repair the segment.

Writing in support of this bill, the Southwest California Legislative Council notes that relinquishment of the specified portion of SR 75 would allow the County of Riverside to manage and maintain the segment thereby reducing the state taxpayer burden as well as allow for much needed maintenance improvements along the route.

*Related legislation:* The administration is proposing a budget trailer bill to, among other things, establish an administrative process to relinquish state highways.

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

Riverside County Board of Supervisors  
Southwest California Legislative Council

**Opposition**

None on file

**Analysis Prepared by:** Victoria Alvarez / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093