

Date of Hearing: June 22, 2015

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Jim Frazier, Chair

SCR 23 (Gaines) – As Amended June 11, 2015

SENATE VOTE: 38-0

SUBJECT: Senator Paul J. Lunardi Memorial Highway.

SUMMARY: Designates a specific portion of State Route (SR) 267 in Placer County as the "Senator Paul J. Lunardi Memorial Highway." Specifically, **this resolution:**

- 1) Recounts the lifetime accomplishments Paul Lunardi, a World War II veteran, City Councilmember, and state elected official.
- 2) Designates a portion of SR 267 between postmile 4.89 to the end of SR 267 in Placer County as the "Senator Paul J. Lunardi 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 measure requests that Caltrans only erect the appropriate signage upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering the cost.

COMMENTS: Paul Lunardi was born on September 30, 1921, in Roseville, California. Upon graduating from Roseville High School, Mr. Lunardi enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard during World War II. After the war, he was elected to the Roseville City Council in 1950 and again in 1954; he also won the mayoral seat in 1954. As a city councilmember, Mr. Lunardi helped bring about the adoption of a city charter for the council-manager form of governance and helped successfully establish a community hospital, municipal fire department, updated street lighting system, central federal power for the city, and expanded sewer, water, and electricity distribution systems.

Paul Lunardi was elected to the State Assembly in 1958, serving until 1963 when he was elected to the State Senate. Senator Lunardi retired in 1966 due to redistricting. One of his proudest legislative accomplishments was designating the ghost town of Bodie as a State Historic Park. Mr. Lunardi also introduced the first bill in state history to assess farmland at a lower tax rate, which was later enacted as what is now known as the Williamson Act. Mr. Lunardi also successfully carried legislation to designate the "Truckee shortcut" as SR 267, linking the cities of Truckee and Kings Beach. This legislation enabled the road to stay open year-round instead of closing for snow in the winter, thereby facilitating development of tourism and skiing in the area.

Senator Lunardi passed away peacefully on January 11, 2013, at the age of 91 and was laid to rest in Roseville. This resolution designating a specific portion of SR 267 in honor of Paul J. Lunardi acknowledges the significant role Senator Lunardi played in his community and for the state of California.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

California Beer and Beverage Distributors (Sponsor)
City of Roseville

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Manny Leon / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093