

Date of Hearing:

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
Lori D. Wilson, Chair  
ACR 126 (Joe Patterson) – As Introduced January 16, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Sergeant Nicole Gee, United States Marine Corps Memorial Highway

**SUMMARY:** Designates the portion of State Route 80 in the County of Placer, from the Douglas Boulevard Overcrossing, 19-0079, to postmile 4.160, as the Sergeant Nicole Gee, United States Marine Corps Memorial Highway. The measure would also request that the 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.

**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 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.

**COMMENTS:** Sergeant Nicole Leeann Gee was born May 1, 1998, in Vail, Colorado. Nicole was raised in the City of Roseville, California, where she attended George Sargeant Elementary School, Warren T. Eich Middle School, and Oakmont High School.

During her time in school, Nicole was a member of the softball team, participated in dance classes, and was a teacher's assistant for Tiny Vikes Preschool. Her scholastic accomplishments included perfect attendance, becoming certified as bilingual in Spanish, and maintaining a place on the honor roll, before graduating in 2016 with a 4.1 grade point average.

In her free time, Nicole enjoyed working out, going to the beach, traveling, baking, spending time with family, and spending time at the gym. She met her husband, Marine Sergeant Jarod Gee, while in high school, and they were married in a private ceremony in August 2016. They were stationed together at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, where they lived with their two dogs and close friends.

Nicole entered active duty in the United States Marine Corps in August 2017. She went through recruit training at Parris Island, South Carolina, School of Infantry-East in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, Aviation Accession and Primary Military Occupational Specialty School in Pensacola, Florida, and Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School in the City of Twentynine Palms, California. She worked as a ground electronics transmission systems maintainer, and was assigned to Combat Logistics Battalion 24.

Nicole's military awards and accomplishments include the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, NATO Medal, Expert Rifle Qualification Third Award, becoming a black belt martial arts instructor, setting weightlifting records at Ahmad al-Jaber Air Base, and achieving perfect scores in Combat Fitness Tests. She deployed with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit in February 2021. During

her deployment, Nicole's stops included Spain, Greece, Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Kuwait. Nicole was meritoriously promoted to Sergeant while in Kuwait on August 2, 2021.

Nicole tragically passed away at 23 years of age in the City of Kabul, Afghanistan, on August 26, 2021, while on a humanitarian mission where she assisted in the evacuation of more than 100,000 refugees.

Nicole was a beloved wife, sister, daughter, aunt, niece, cousin, granddaughter, and friend, and a hero to the countless number of people that she helped. She will always be remembered for her bravery, kindness, love, dedication, and selfless sacrifice in service to her country.

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

American Legion, Department of California  
California State Commanders Veterans Council

**Opposition**

None on file

**Analysis Prepared by:** Aimee Anspach / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093