

Date of Hearing:

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Lori D. Wilson, Chair

ACR 121 (Gallagher) – As Introduced January 9, 2024

**SUBJECT:** National Purple Heart Trail

**SUMMARY:** Designates portions of State Highway Routes 20 and 99 in the City of Yuba City in the County of Sutter for inclusion in the National Purple Heart Trail. The measure would also request that the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) determine the cost for the installation and maintenance of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, 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:** The National Purple Heart Trail was established in 1992 for the purpose of commemorating and honoring people who have been wounded or killed in combat while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The National Purple Heart Trail courses its way across the vast majority of the United States.

In 2001, pursuant to the Senate Concurrent Resolution 14, the Legislature designated portions of Interstate Highway Routes 5 and 80 as California's selections for inclusion in the National Purple Heart Trail.

In 2009, pursuant to Assembly Concurrent Resolution 12, the Legislature designated a certain portion of State Highway Route 101 in the Counties of Monterey, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara for inclusion in the National Purple Heart Trail, and, pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 105, the Legislature designated a certain portion of State Highway Route 223 in the County of Kern for inclusion in the National Purple Heart Trail.

In 2013, pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 27, the Legislature designated certain portions of State Highway Route 101 in the Counties of Santa Barbara and Ventura for inclusion in the National Purple Heart Trail.

In 2016, pursuant to Assembly Concurrent Resolution 191, the Legislature designated the portions of State Highway Routes 16, 20, and 45 in the County of Colusa for inclusion in the National Purple Heart Trail.

In 2021, pursuant to Assembly Concurrent Resolution 19, the Legislature designated the portions of State Highway Routes 20 and 70 in the City of Marysville in the County of Yuba for inclusion in the National Purple Heart Trail.

The Yuba City Veterans Memorial Community Building is located on the west side of State Highway Route 99 in the City of Yuba City and is the home of American Legion Post 705.

Sutter County Veterans Memorial Park is located on the west side of State Highway Route 99 in the City of Yuba City and it honors Purple Heart recipients and veterans who served in all branches of the United States military since World War I.

The Plumas Street Flagpole is located on the south side of State Highway Route 20 in the City of Yuba City at Plumas Street and it honors all veterans that have honorably served, including Purple Heart recipients.

The Yuba City Veterans Park is located on the south side of State Highway Route 20 at the intersection of Bridge Street and Second Street in the City of Yuba City and honors the 12 veterans that lost their lives in World War I.

The historic Yuba City Cemetery, established in 1850, is located on the south side of State Highway Route 20 in the City of Yuba City on the north side of Bridge Street and is the final resting place of many veterans, some of whom were Purple Heart recipients, from all wars fought by the United States beginning with the Mexican-American War.

The Yuba City American Legion Post 705 wishes to continue the Purple Heart Trail program within the city limits of the City of Yuba City for State Highway Routes 20 and 99.

Vice Commander Brock Bowen of the Yuba City American Legion Post 705 took the initiative to bring the National Purple Heart Trail through the City of Yuba City. The City of Yuba City is already a Purple Heart City.

The City of Yuba City is requesting eight Purple Heart Trail signs within its city limits to honor Purple Heart recipients and the National Purple Heart Trail program and requests these signs be located at the intersection of State Highway Routes 20 and 99, as well as the beginning and end of each highway route.

The Legislature finds that it is appropriate to designate additional portions of the state highway system for inclusion in the National Purple Heart Trail in order to honor the people who have been wounded or killed in combat while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

**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