

Date of Hearing: June 17, 2024

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
Lori D. Wilson, Chair  
SCR 102 (Alvarado-Gil) – As Introduced January 18, 2024

**SENATE VOTE:** 36-0

**SUBJECT:** Dave McCoy Memorial Highway

**SUMMARY:** Designates a specified portion of United States Highway 395 in the County of Mono as the Dave McCoy Memorial Highway. The measure also requests the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) determines the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering 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:** Dave McCoy was a visitor to the eastern Sierra Nevada at 13 years of age, and, in remembrance, is now known as a household name, visionary, and a force of nature who found the mountains were calling him.

Dave McCoy, in his later adolescence, observed some Norwegian ski jumpers who sparked his interest in skiing, and later was employed as a hydrographer for the Los Angeles Department of Water in 1936, and would ski up to 50 miles per day, becoming the California state champion in skiing at 22 years of age.

At one point he considered McGee Mountain, near United States Highway 395, as a place to set up a primitive rope tow, but he eventually concluded that the snow at the lava dome complex known as Mammoth Mountain was much better, so he set his rope tow and roots in the ground in 1942 at Mammoth Mountain. McCoy and a small group of skiers worked diligently to dig holes, mix concrete, and install a chairlift on their own by Thanksgiving of 1955.

Dave McCoy, an American skier, businessman, and pivotal icon, who founded the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area in 1942 and contributed to economic prosperity throughout the eastern Sierra region, retired after running the ski area for 68 years. He exemplifies a person who should be honored due to his extraordinary public service and exemplary contribution to the public good and connection of Californians through recreation. He will forever be remembered for generations to come in the eastern Sierra region and by all visitors who love to recreate in Mammoth Lakes and California's Great Beyond He demonstrated courage, service and gratitude and lived the "American Dream."

Dave McCoy should be honored with a segment of highway to represent his vision, virtuous work ethic, and public service to all Americans who “dream to believe that anyone, regardless of where they were born or what class they were born into, can attain their own version of success in a society in which upward mobility is possible for everyone.”

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

City of Bishop

**Opposition**

None on file

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