

Date of Hearing: July 7, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Lori D. Wilson, Chair

ACR 81 (DeMaio) – As Introduced May 7, 2025

SUBJECT: Border Patrol Agent Daniel H. Salazar Memorial Highway

SUMMARY: Designates the portion of State Route 94 from Potrero Valley Road to Bell Valley Truck Trail in the County of San Diego as the Border Patrol Agent Daniel H. Salazar Memorial Highway and requests the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate 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 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: Daniel “Danny” Humberto Salazar was born on May 1, 1982, in the County of Los Angeles to Humberto and Marielena Salazar. Danny grew up in his family’s home in the City of Downey alongside his mother, father, and siblings, Nancy, Cindy, and Michael.

As a young man, Danny had a passion for music. As a self-taught musician, he played the guitar, bass guitar, ukulele, piano, and his specialty, drums. Danny attended Warren High School in the City of Downey, where he met and began dating his future wife, Karina.

After high school, Danny attended Río Hondo College in the City of Whittier, he graduated with an associate of science degree, and successfully passed an emergency medical technician training program. Danny was a volunteer firefighter for the City of Downey and completed several ridealongs with the Los Angeles and Long Beach Fire Departments.

Danny attended a rigorous wildland fire academy in the County of San Diego and worked for the wildland fire crew in the County of Lassen. Danny attended the Los Angeles Fire Department Leadership Academy but had to step down from his position due to an injury suffered during this training.

Danny applied to be a United States Border Patrol Agent. After he successfully completed, in the City of Artesia, the challenging, immersive, and strenuous 19-week United States Border Patrol Academy, which is one of the largest and widely considered as one of the most difficult training academies in the world, Danny graduated as a member of Class 1097 on December 7, 2018, and received an official offer to begin his career as a border agent at the United States Customs and Border Protection’s El Cajon Station.

Danny adapted well to his working environment at the United States Customs and Border Protection’s El Cajon Station, flourished in the field training unit program, and made an impact on his patrol group with his reliability, rational thinking, work ethic, and skills. Danny was

proficient and self-motivated, had the trust of his leaders and coworkers, and earned a place on the border patrol unit using all-terrain vehicles.

On July 21, 2021, Danny became a father, welcoming his son, Santiago “Santi” Salazar, into the world. Danny read to Santi every night before work, cared for him delicately, was incredibly proud to be his “Poppa,” and would take him on walks in a stroller to show him the beauty of nature.

On the tragic day of May 13, 2022, while he was responding to a sensor activation, Danny passed away from injuries sustained in an on-duty single vehicle crash on a border road near Potrero, south of Bell Valley.

Danny will be remembered as an outstanding United States Border Patrol Agent, a devoted husband, a proud father, and a true family man.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**Support**

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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