

Date of Hearing: April 20, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Lori D. Wilson, Chair

ACR 169 (DeMaio) – As Introduced April 15, 2026

SUBJECT: The United States Navy Sailor Noah Tobin Memorial Highway

SUMMARY: This measure would designate a specified overcrossing on State Route 15 in the County of San Diego as the United States Navy Sailor Noah Tobin Memorial Highway. The measure would request the Department of Transportation 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: A native of Valley Center, California, Noah Tobin followed the proud legacy of his grandfathers when he joined the United States Navy in 2021. One of eight siblings, Noah distinguished himself early in his career, earning the rank of Petty Officer Second Class and joining the elite ranks of the Special Warfare Combatant-Craft Crewmen (SWCC).

As a Special Warfare Boat Operator assigned to Special Boat Team 20, Noah was a highly trained specialist in clandestine maritime operations. His role required immense precision and resilience, as he operated high-speed vessels in support of Navy SEALs and global special operations missions. He reported to his first command, an East Coast-based Naval Special Warfare Unit, in May 2024.

Noah's life was defined by selfless discipline and an unwavering commitment to his teammates. Tragically, on July 2, 2025, shortly after returning from a deployment, he passed away following a parachute training exercise in Porterville, California.

On July 7, 2025, the communities of Escondido and Valley Center gathered to bring their hero home. Hundreds lined the streets as a procession of military personnel, law enforcement, and firefighters escorted Noah to his final resting place. The ceremony was attended by community leaders, including the Mayor of Escondido and representatives from Congressman Darrell Issa's office, who presented the Tobin family with a folded flag and a hero's proclamation. Noah Tobin stood among the best of us, forever committed to protecting the freedoms we hold dear.

By naming this portion of the state highway system in his honor, the Legislature ensures that the sacrifice of Petty Officer Noah Tobin remains a visible part of the community he dedicated his life to protecting.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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