

Date of Hearing:

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Lori D. Wilson, Chair

ACR 162 (Gallagher) – As Introduced March 18, 2026

SUBJECT: Congressman Doug LaMalfa Memorial Highway

SUMMARY: Designates a specified portion of State Route 99 in the County of Butte as the Congressman Doug LaMalfa Memorial Highway. The measure would request that the California 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: Born on July 2, 1960, in Oroville, California, Douglas “Doug” LaMalfa was a lifelong resident of Northern California. A fourth-generation rice farmer and businessman from Richvale, he remained deeply connected to the land throughout his career. After graduating from Biggs High School in 1978, he earned a bachelor’s degree in agricultural business from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, in 1982.

Congressman LaMalfa’s tenure in public service began in 2002 with his election to the California State Assembly. He subsequently served in the California State Senate before his election to the United States House of Representatives in 2012. From 2013 to 2026, he represented California’s First Congressional District, establishing himself as a fierce advocate for Northern California’s agriculture and natural resources-based economy.

Beyond his district, Congressman LaMalfa rose to national prominence as the unanimously elected Chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus. In this role, he led one of the largest membership organizations in Congress, prioritizing the needs of rural communities, family farms, and small businesses across the Western United States.

Known for his humility and authenticity, Congressman LaMalfa was a devoted husband to his wife, Jill, and a proud father and grandfather. He and Jill raised their four children—Kyle, Allison, Sophia, and Natalie—on their family farm in Richvale, instilling in them the values of hard work and community service.

Following his tragic passing on January 6, 2026, Congressman LaMalfa leaves behind a profound legacy of leadership and advocacy. This highway designation serves as a permanent tribute to his decades of service to the people of California and the United States.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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