

Date of Hearing: June 13, 2022

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Laura Friedman, Chair

ACR 201 (Robert Rivas) – As Introduced June 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Army Specialist Eduardo Silva Memorial Highway

SUMMARY: Designated a portion of State Route 101 in the County of Monterey between the Underwood Road, at post mile 51.060, and Kenny Road, at post mile 50.285, as the Army Specialist Eduardo Silva Memorial Highway.

EXISTING LAW: Assigns the Department of Transportation (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: Army Specialist Eduardo Silva grew up in the City of Greenfield, California. After graduating from Greenfield High School in 2002, Silva enlisted in the Army in August of 2006. Upon graduating from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, South Carolina, Silva arrived at Fort Campbell in July of 2008, where he served as a Food Service Specialist. Silva served with the 563rd Aviation Support Battalion, 159th Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Silva was first deployed to Afghanistan in November of 2008.

During his third deployment, Silva sustained a fatal injury on June 9, 2009, in a noncombat-related incident in Bagram, Afghanistan. During his career of service, Silva earned numerous awards and decorations that include the Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Korean Defense Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and Weapons Qualification: M4-rifle, expert.

Silva loved making his family and friends laugh. “He was like the clown of the family,” his mother said. “He would always make everybody laugh. He would just always make us happy. Whoever was around him would just be happy with him.”

Eduardo attended Vista Verde Middle School in Greenwood, Ca, where he played the drums. He was known as a true friend always ready to help-no questions asked. An incredible young man who was so well admired even by one former teacher that she name her son after Eduardo as he was one of her very best students. He graduated from Greenfield High in 2002.

He is survived by his wife, Rosalinda Silva, of King City, Calif.; and parents, Sara and Eduardo Silva; a brother, Enrique; and two sisters, Elizabeth and Erika, of King City, Calif.

According to the author, “ACR 201 will honor Army Specialist Eduardo Silva for his heroic efforts to protect our lives as well as the freedom we enjoy every day. I’m proud to honor Army Specialist Eduardo Silva and the ultimate sacrifice he made for our nation.”

Committee Comments: It is the intent of the Assembly Transportation Committee to use the Memorial Highway Naming process to honor deceased Californians who have made significant public service contributions and also to reflect the diversity of our state. Currently, most named highways in California are for fallen male public safety officers, who made the ultimate sacrifice, and for whom we are indebted. However, these names do not fully represent the wide range of types of public service contributions, as well as the gender and racial diversity of California's communities. The Assembly Transportation Committee is committed to working with the Department of Transportation in the upcoming year to improve the naming process to ensure greater equity and to better represent the diversity of California.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**Support**

None on file.

Opposition

None on file.

Analysis Prepared by: Jessica Sam / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093