

Date of Hearing: April 22, 2019

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Jim Frazier, Chair

ACR 47 (Bigelow) – As Amended April 12, 2019

SUBJECT: CAL FIRE Firefighter Braden Varney Memorial Highway

SUMMARY: Designates a portion of State Route 140 (SR 140) in the County of Mariposa as the “CAL FIRE Firefighter Braden Varney Memorial Highway.” Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Recounts the life and accomplishments of Braden Varney, a Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Heavy Fire Equipment Operator and Firefighter.
- 2) Designates the portion of State Route 140 between its junction with State Route 49 (post mile 22.080) and Triangle Road (postmile 26.290) in the County of Mariposa as the “CAL FIRE Firefighter Braden Varney Memorial Highway.”
- 3) Requests that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing the special designation and, upon receiving donations from non-state 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 only erect the appropriate signage upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering the cost.

COMMENTS: Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Heavy Fire Equipment Operator Braden Varney passed away in the line of duty on July 14, 2018, at 36 years of age, while battling the Ferguson Fire in Mariposa County, California. Braden Varney was born and raised in Mariposa County. Braden Varney was a 10-year veteran of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, having followed in the footsteps of his late father, Gordie Varney, another department heavy fire equipment operator who perished in the line of duty. He is survived by his mother, Lynn; loving wife, Jessica; daughter, Maleah; son, Nolan; and sister, Chale. This resolution designating a portion of SR 140 in the County of Mariposa in his honor recognizes the ultimate sacrifice Firefighter Varney made to his community.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on File

Opposition

None on File

Analysis Prepared by: Cynthia Alvarez / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093