

Date of Hearing: July 1, 2019

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Jim Frazier, Chair

SB 504 (Monning) – As Amended June 18, 2019

SENATE VOTE: 38-0

SUBJECT: State highways: Route 1: relinquishment

SUMMARY: Authorizes the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to relinquish to the City of Pismo Beach the portion of State Route (SR) 1 within its city limits. Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Authorizes CTC to relinquish to the City of Pismo Beach the portion of SR 1 within its city limits, upon terms and conditions CTC finds to be in the best interest of the state.
- 2) Provides that the relinquishment will become effective immediately following recordation of the relinquishment resolution.
- 3) Specifies that following the effective date of relinquishment, the relinquished segment will no longer be a state highway and may not be considered for future adoption as a state highway.

EXISTING LAW:

- 1) Defines a "state highway" as any roadway that is acquired, laid out, constructed, improved, or maintained as a state highway pursuant to constitutional or legislative authorization.
- 2) Statutorily identifies state highway system routes.
- 3) Specifies that it is the intent of the Legislature that the prescribed routes of the state highway system connect communities and regions of the state and that they serve the state's economy by connecting centers of commerce, industry, agriculture, mineral wealth, and recreation.
- 4) Provides for a two-step state highway relinquishment process beginning with the Legislature amending existing law to allow for the state highway segment to be deleted and culminating with the CTC making a finding that it is in the best interest of the state to delete a specified portion of roadway from the system.

FISCAL EFFECT: According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, unknown one-time costs ranging from minor up to several million dollars to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) prior to the relinquishment of the designated segments of SR 1 to Pismo Beach. These costs would be offset in future years due to avoided maintenance costs on the relinquished segment.

COMMENTS: Each session, numerous bills authorizing CTC to relinquish segments of the state highway to local jurisdictions are passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. Relinquishment transactions are generally preceded by a negotiation of terms and conditions between the local jurisdiction and Caltrans. Once an agreement has been established, the

Legislature authorizes CTC to relinquish the segment and CTC then approves the relinquishment and verifies its approval via resolution. The final step is for the Legislature to delete these segments from current law.

This bill is consistent with Caltrans' policy encouraging the relinquishment of state highways that do not serve regional or statewide transportation needs. Recipient agencies often seek relinquishment of state highways so that they can have greater control over the facility, which often serves as a local street.

According to the author, "For a number of years, the City of Pismo Beach has been discussing the possibility of a relinquishment of State Route (SR) 1 with Caltrans District 5. SR 1 is located within the Pismo Beach City limits for approximately 2.5 miles."

Writing in support, the City of Pismo Beach states, "The City would like to have additional control over the roadway to make improvements that will help with mobility, safety, active transportation, tourism, economic development and defining the City's unique character."

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**Support**

City of Pismo Beach (sponsor)

Opposition

None on file

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