

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, PETITIONING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO DESIGNATE STATE ROUTE 168, BEGINNING AT THE INTERCHANGE WITH STATE ROUTE 180 TO HONOR AND COMMEMORATE THE LEGACY OF FORMER FRESNO CITY COUNCILWOMAN ESTHER PADILLA

WHEREAS, Esther Padilla was elected to the Fresno City Council in 1991, making her the first ever Latina elected. She was a trailblazer in the Latino community, as she dedicated her life to advocacy, farm worker social justice, and community outreach in the Central Valley; and

WHEREAS, Esther Padilla was born and raised in the Central Valley, as she was the youngest of twelve in her family. Esther attended California State University, Fresno where she earned her Bachelors of Arts and Master's Degree in Social Work. She worked as a social worker for the Fresno County Department of Social Work, Sequoia Community Health Foundations, and Centro La Familia; and

WHEREAS, Esther Padilla served ten years as an active volunteer with the United Farm Workers (UFW), she even gave up her job to volunteer because she felt so passionately about invoking change. Through UFW she became involved in politics by organizing boycotts, negotiating union contracts, lobbying, and providing congressional testimony on Rights of Farm Worker's, Equal Rights Amendment and Vote by Mail initiatives in Washington D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Esther Padilla served a four-year term on the Fresno City Council from 1991-1995, where she represented District 5: a predominantly Latino area. She

1 of 3

Date Adopted:
Date Approved:

Effective Date:

City Attorney Approval:



Resolution No. _____

served her district well ensuring the construction of needed infrastructure and housing developments along Southeast Fresno. During her time as a Councilmember, she played a vital role in the construction of both Highway 180 and 168, by providing the swing vote that gave the order to begin. She also voted in favor of constructing the Downtown Fresno Baseball Stadium; and

WHEREAS, Esther Padilla was an employee of Donor Network West and was a strong advocate for the transplant donor network. She had a great understanding and personal connection of the importance of organ donations because her daughter allowed her to live two more decades by donating her kidney to her.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Fresno as follows:

1. The City of Fresno Mayor and City Council hereby petition the California State Assembly and Senate to designate State Route 168, beginning at the interchange with State Route 180, between the postmiles R0.000 and R4.811, to honor and commemorate the legacy of Esther Padilla.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF FRESNO) ss.
CITY OF FRESNO)

I, YVONNE SPENCE, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, at a regular meeting held on the _____ day of _____ 2019.

AYES :
NOES :
ABSENT :
ABSTAIN :

YVONNE SPENCE, MMC CRM
City Clerk

By: _____
Deputy Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DOUGLAS T. SLOAN
City Attorney

By: _____
Laurie Avedisian-Favini Date
Assistant City Attorney