



January 11, 2010

Honorable John A. Perez, Speaker Elect
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3160
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: ACR 103 – SUPPORT

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, which represents over 3,200 rank and file deputy sheriffs, sheriffs, deputy probation officers, law enforcement investigators and counselors, coroners and bailiffs, the entire law enforcement team in Riverside County, supports your bill, ACR 103.

Deputy Sheriff Juan Abel Escalante was someone, who faithfully served the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the residents of Los Angeles County. We have learned that he had a history of being brave – as a United States Army Reservist, he was awarded the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, an Army Service Ribbon, a National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal, and when he left the service, he brought this bravery to his new position as a deputy sheriff.

When he met his death, he had only been in service 21/2 years as a law enforcement officer, but he was, according to his friends and co-workers in the custody division known as someone who was firm yet fair with inmates. He was committed to being a good officer, and it sent a shock through the department when he was assaulted and killed in the line of duty outside his Los Angeles home on August 2, 2008.

We believe it is right to recognize this young officer, and it would be a fitting tribute to designate a portion of State Highway Route 101 in Los Angeles County as the Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff Juan Abel Escalante Memorial Highway. Thank you for directing recognition to the memory of this brave officer.

Very truly yours,

Pat McNamara
President

Timothy H. B. Yaryan
Legislative Counsel and Advocate