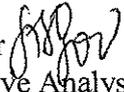


**REPORT OF THE
CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST**

DATE: August 26, 2013

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations
Committee

FROM: Gerry F. Miller 
Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No: 13-0002-S114
Assignment No: 13-08-0722

SUBJECT: Resolution (Parks-Cedillo) Naming a portion of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay
Bridge as the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution (Parks-Cedillo) to include in the City's 2013-2014 State Legislative Program, SUPPORT for Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 65, which would name the western span of the San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge as the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge.

SUMMARY

Resolution (Parks-Cedillo), introduced on August 13, 2013, states that Willie L. Brown, Jr. served as a member and first African American speaker of the California State Assembly, and two terms as the Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco. Further, the subject Resolution indicates that Mr. Brown served on the Boards of the California State University system, the California Public Employees' Retirement System, and as a Regent of the University of California. Mr. Brown is known as one of the most influential politicians of the late 20th century, as he rebuilt one of the nation's busiest transit systems, pioneered the use of bond measures for affordable housing, and created a model juvenile justice system. Given his vast and influential career, the Resolution urges support of Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 65, which would name the western span of the San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge as the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge.

BACKGROUND

Willie L. Brown, Jr. was born on March 20, 1934 in Mineola, Texas, a town which was plagued by segregation and discrimination during his early life. Mr. Brown's first job was as a shoeshiner in a "whites-only" barbershop, and his strong work ethic was continually defined as he subsequently worked as a janitor, fry-cook, and field-hand. Brown grew up nearly self-reliant and independent at an early age, as his parents left Mineola to earn more money for Brown and his siblings. He later relocated to San Francisco in 1951, and worked as a janitor, doorman, and shoe salesman to pay for college. Brown established strong ties to the Young Democrats and the NAACP while in college, and he later graduated from San Francisco State with his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1955, and subsequently graduated from University of California, Hastings College of Law in 1958. In September of 1957, he married Blanche Vitero, and subsequently had four children.

In the late 1950's and early 1960's, Brown practiced criminal defense law in San Francisco where he opened his own practice. It is through this practice that Brown began his involvement with

the civil rights movement, which provided him backing to later run for the California State Assembly. In 1964, Willie Brown became the first African American elected in San Francisco to serve in the Assembly. This began his tenure as one of the most powerful and influential politicians in California, as he served for three decades in the Assembly. Brown was the first African American Speaker of the Assembly. He is also the only individual to hold the position of Speaker for 15 years in the history of California politics. In 1995, Brown was elected as San Francisco's first African American Mayor, and subsequently served two terms in this capacity. Mr. Brown dedicated 39 years of his life to the public.

During Willie Brown's tenure as a public servant, he established a reputation for being a pioneer and advocate for social justice. In 1975, he authored and lobbied the successful adoption of the "Consenting Adult Sex" bill which, in effect, legalized homosexuality in California. He also led efforts in the Assembly for California universities to divest from South Africa during the anti-apartheid movement and succeeded at increasing AIDS funding. During Mr. Brown's service as the Speaker of the Assembly, he quickly gained a reputation for being the State's "chief diplomat and negotiator" on critical and controversial issues.

As Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, Willie Brown was a champion of transportation and social policy issues. Brown was responsible for the complete overhaul of the San Francisco Municipal Railway system, and oversaw the re-investment and re-building of this system. In addition, he introduced job training programs for the homeless and low-income populations, an \$11 million drug treatment program, and invested hundreds of millions of dollars in building new shelters and supportive housing. He also approved the "Equal Benefits Ordinance" which required city contractors to provide domestic partner benefits to their employees.

Subsequent to Brown's career in politics, he established the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Institute on Politics & Public Service, an unaffiliated nonprofit organization at San Francisco State University which serves as a consortium for substantive and technical expertise on policy issues and also prepares students for careers in municipal, county and regional governments.

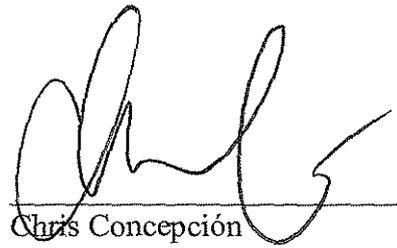
Willie L. Brown, Jr.'s reputation of a hard-working advocate for justice, who has spent four decades in service to not only the San Francisco area, but to the State of California as well, has not gone unrecognized. He holds over 17 honorary degrees from various law institutions, and has received awards from various organizations for his dedication to the people of California. Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 65 (ACR 65) recognizes all of his hard work and accomplishments being at the center of California politics and civic life, and urges naming the western span of the San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge as the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge to honor and commemorate his contributions to California. ACR 65 also calls for non-state resources to cover all costs associated with erecting permanent signage for this area of the state highway system.

BILL STATUS

6/12/13	Introduced
6/20/13	Referred to Committee on Transportation
8/12/13	Adopted by Committee on Transportation
8/13/13	Re-referred to Committee on Appropriations

8/21/13
8/21/13

Adopted by Committee on Appropriations
Third Reading - Assembly Floor



Chris Concepción
Analyst

- Attachment: 1. Resolution (Parks - Cedillo)
2. Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 65

13-0002-S114
AUG 13 2013

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, Willie L. Brown, Jr. was first elected in 1964 and served in all of the following capacities: as a Member of the California State Assembly from 1965 to 1995, as Speaker of the California State Assembly as the longest serving Speaker in California history, from 1980 to 1995, and the first African American; and two terms as the 41st Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, from January 8, 1996, to January 8, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown served as the Chair of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee and the Chair of the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee; served on the Board of Trustees of the California State University system and as a Regent of the University of California; and served on the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System; and

WHEREAS, as mayor of San Francisco, he refurbished and rebuilt one of the nation's busiest transit systems, pioneered the use of bond measures to build affordable housing, created a model juvenile justice system, and paved the way for creating the expansion campus of the University of California, San Francisco, to serve as the anchor of a new development that would position the city as a center for the burgeoning field of biotechnology; and

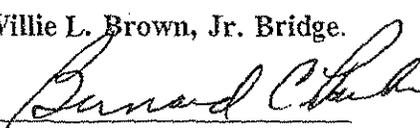
WHEREAS, Mr. Brown is widely regarded as one of the most influential politicians of the late 20th century, and has been at the center of California politics, government, and civic life for an impressive four decades; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown's career has left his mark on every aspect of politics and public policy in the Golden State, including civil rights, education reform, tax policy, economic development, health care, international trade, domestic partnerships, and affirmative action; and

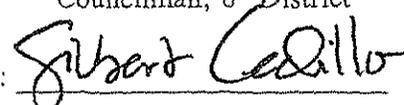
WHEREAS, currently pending in the State Legislature is a bill, Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 65 to name the western span of the San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge as the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2013-2014 State Legislative Program support for Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 65 to name the western span of the San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge as the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge.

PRESENTED BY:


BERNARD C. PARKS
Councilman, 8th District

SECONDED BY:



AUG 13 2013

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 65

Introduced by Assembly Member Hall
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bonta, Brown, Holden,
Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Mitchell, Ting, and Weber)
(Coauthors: Senators Price and Wright)

June 12, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 65—Relative to the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 65, as introduced, Hall. The Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge.

This measure would name the western span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge the Willie L. Brown, Jr. Bridge. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for erecting appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Willie L. Brown, Jr. was born on March 20, 1934,
- 2 in Mineola, Texas, and was the son of Minnie Collins Boyd and
- 3 Willie Lewis Brown, Sr. and grandson of Anna Collins. He married
- 4 the former Blanche Vitero in September 1957. He is the father of
- 5 four children: Susan Elizabeth Brown, Robin Elaine Brown-Friedel,
- 6 Michael Elliot Brown, and Sydney Minetta Brown; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Mr. Brown received a bachelor of arts degree from
- 8 San Francisco State University in 1955 and a juris doctor from the
- 9 University of California, Hastings College of Law, in 1958. He

1 was admitted to the practice of law in the State of California and
2 to the federal court, including the United States Supreme Court;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Brown was first elected in 1964 and served in
5 all of the following capacities: as a Member of the California State
6 Assembly from 1965 to 1995, as Speaker of the California State
7 Assembly as the longest serving Speaker in California history,
8 from 1980 to 1995, and the first African American; and two terms
9 as the 41st Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, from
10 January 8, 1996, to January 8, 2004; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Brown served as the Chair of the Assembly
12 Ways and Means Committee and the Chair of the Assembly
13 Revenue and Taxation Committee; served on the Board of Trustees
14 of the California State University system and as a Regent of the
15 University of California; and served on the Board of Administration
16 of the California Public Employees' Retirement System; and

17 WHEREAS, As mayor of California's most cosmopolitan city,
18 he refurbished and rebuilt one of the nation's busiest transit
19 systems, pioneered the use of bond measures to build affordable
20 housing, created a model juvenile justice system, and paved the
21 way for creating the expansion campus of the University of
22 California, San Francisco, to serve as the anchor of a new
23 development that would position the city as a center for the
24 burgeoning field of biotechnology; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Brown is widely regarded as one of the most
26 influential politicians of the late 20th century, and has been at the
27 center of California politics, government, and civic life for an
28 astonishing four decades; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. Brown's career spans the American presidency
30 from Lyndon Johnson to Barack Obama, and he has worked with
31 every California Governor from Edmund Gerald "Pat" Brown, Sr.,
32 to Edmund Gerald "Jerry" Brown, Jr., and has left his imprimatur
33 on every aspect of politics and public policy in the Golden State,
34 including civil rights, education reform, tax policy, economic
35 development, health care, international trade, domestic
36 partnerships, and affirmative action; and

37 WHEREAS, Today, Mr. Brown heads the Willie L. Brown, Jr.
38 Institute on Politics and Public Service, where he shares his vast
39 political knowledge and skills with a new generation of California
40 leaders; now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
2 *thereof concurring, That the California Legislature takes great*
3 *pride in recognizing Willie L. Brown, Jr. for all of his political,*
4 *professional, and personal accomplishments by naming the western*
5 *span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge the Willie L.*
6 *Brown, Jr. Bridge to honor and commemorate his many*
7 *contributions to California; and be it further*
8 *Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested*
9 *to determine the cost of erecting the appropriate signs, consistent*
10 *with the signing requirements for the state highway system,*
11 *showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations*
12 *from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs; and*
13 *be it further*
14 *Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies*
15 *of this resolution to the Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly,*
16 *the President pro Tempore of the Senate, the California Legislative*
17 *Black Caucus, the Director of Transportation, and the author for*
18 *appropriate distribution.*

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