

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF FRESNO  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. 24-319

ADOPT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE ALLUVIAL )  
AVENUE UNDERCROSSING AT HIGHWAY 41 AS THE )  
"AMBASSADOR PHILLIP V. SANCHEZ MEMORIAL BRIDGE")

WHEREAS, Phillip V. Sanchez was born on July 28, 1929, in Pinedale, a small community near State Highway 41 and Herndon Avenue in the County of Fresno, demonstrating scholastic excellence at both Pinedale Elementary School and Clovis High School where he graduated magna cum laude; and

WHEREAS, Phillip V. Sanchez founded the Sigma Chi Fraternity at Fresno State University (then College) and served as its first President while earning bachelor's and master's degrees. At the same time, he served in Fresno State's ROTC program and served in the enlisted ranks of the California Army National Guard, where he continued to serve and lead. He would continue his service as an officer in the United States Army and United States Army Reserve, eventually serving his country for 43 years and rising from the rank of Private all the way to Colonel; and

WHEREAS, Phillip V. Sanchez served as Fresno County's Administrative Officer between 1962 and 1971, and was the youngest CAO appointed in all 58 California counties; and

WHEREAS, Phillip V. Sanchez went on to serve in the Nixon Administration, first as Assistant Director then Director of the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, then as President Nixon's Ambassador to Honduras. He continued his civil service under the Ford Administration as President Ford's Ambassador to Columbia; and

WHEREAS, Phillip V. Sanchez left an indelible mark on education, becoming a trustee on the Clovis Unified School District in his 20s before being appointed to Governor Reagan's Governing Board of Directors of the California State University. He further served in governance for the National Hispanic University of Peru, University of Bridgeport in Connecticut, and the University of the Americas Foundation in Texas. Ambassador Sanchez has a charter school named after him in the City of Fresno, facilities named after him at his alma mater of Pinedale Elementary, as well as three orphanages located in Mexico that he founded and funded; and

WHEREAS, except for Presidential assignments to foreign countries and military service deployments by the United States Army, Ambassador Sanchez lived on Alluvial Avenue in Pinedale, where he embodied the promise of the American Dream in his journey from poverty to prosperity as a leader and public servant; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the California State Legislature has resolved and ordered that the Alluvial Avenue undercrossing located at State Highway 41 be dedicated as the Ambassador Phillip V. Sanchez Memorial Bridge, less than a mile from the community where Ambassador Sanchez's family home resides. On October 5, 2024, the official dedication ceremony will be held.

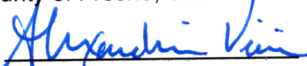
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes and celebrates the contributions of Phillip V. Sanchez to his community and nation, and thanks the California State Legislature for the memorialization of the Ambassador Phillip V. Sanchez Memorial Bridge in Fresno County in his honor.

THE FOREGOING, was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 24<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024, to-wit:

AYES:	Supervisors Brandau, Magsig, Mendes, Pacheco, Quintero
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAINED:	None

  
Nathan Magsig, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno

ATTEST:  
BERNICE E. SEIDEL  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Fresno, State of California

By   
Deputy