

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: Transportation Committee

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BILL: SB 2492

INTRODUCER: Senator Posey

SUBJECT: Bridge Designation

DATE: March 30, 2006

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Woods	Meyer	TR	<b>Pre-meeting</b>
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

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## I. Summary:

Section 334.071, F.S., specifies the purpose and effect of the designation of roads, bridges, and other transportation facilities for honorary or memorial purposes by the Florida Legislature. The effects of this bill are as follows.

- SB 2492 designates the replacement bridge over Lake Jesup on State Road 46 near Sanford in Seminole County as the "George C. Means Memorial Bridge."
- The Department of Transportation (FDOT) is directed to erect suitable markers.

## II. Present Situation:

Section 334.071, F.S., provides: (1) Legislative designations of transportation facilities are for honorary or memorial purposes, or to distinguish a particular facility, and may not be construed to require any action by local governments or private parties regarding the changing of any street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone number system listings, unless the legislation specifically provides for such changes; (2) When the Legislature establishes road or bridge designations, FDOT is required to place markers only at the termini specified for each highway segment or bridge designated by the law creating the designation, and to erect any other markers it deems appropriate for the transportation facility; and (3) The FDOT may not erect the markers for honorary road or bridge designations unless the affected city or county commission enacts a resolution supporting the designation. When the designated road or bridge segment is located in more than one city or county, resolutions supporting the designations must be passed by each affected local government prior to the erection of the markers.

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The effects of this bill are as follows:

- SB 2492 designates the replacement bridge over Lake Jesup on State Road 46 near Sanford in Seminole County as the "George C. Means Memorial Bridge." George C. Means was born in Jacksonville in 1916 and was a resident of this state until he died in 2005. George C. Means graduated from the University of Florida in 1938 with 4 years in the Reserve Officer Training Corps. Means accepted a commission as Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve and during this service, came to Sanford as the first person hired under the Farm Security Administration in Seminole County in 1939. He administered the aerial photographing and plotting data needed to execute the "AAA" program for vegetable farmers. Means was called to active duty in 1940 to serve as the officer in charge of the Quartermaster Center in Tennessee, which was responsible for feeding 700,000 troops each day. He handled the logistics of shipping food to troops worldwide. In 1941, George C. Means married Minnie Lee King of Oviedo, and they moved to Oviedo where he came to work for Wheeler Fertilizer in 1947 as a salesman, a position from which he retired in 1985. Means was a charter member of the American Legion Post 243 in Oviedo, the Oviedo Historical Society, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the South Seminole Christian Church, while also being active in the Seminole County and Florida Farm Bureau agencies and the Seminole County Soil and Conservation Service. After returning from World War II, Means noticed Lake Jesup was beginning to show signs of environmental distress, and he worked tirelessly to reconnect the flow of the St. Johns River back into Lake Jesup. In 1950, the State Road Department began a project to improve SR 46 and replace the wooden bridge that spanned the mouth of the lake with a fill-dirt causeway. Means, along with his contemporaries correctly predicted that great environmental harm would result from this isolation of the lake. Means took every opportunity to speak to elected officials and to educate everyone he met on the damage caused by the causeway. Until the end of his life, he educated and lobbied everyone who would listen. Means died shortly after the replacement bridge design had been adopted.
- FDOT is directed to erect suitable markers.

### IV. Constitutional Issues:

#### A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

#### B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

#### C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

**V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:****A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

**B. Private Sector Impact:**

None.

**C. Government Sector Impact:**

FDOT estimates the cost to erect suitable road designating markers to be \$800 (\$400 per marker). The expenditure is from the State Transportation Trust Fund. FDOT is also responsible for any future maintenance and replacement cost, which is indeterminate

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

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This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

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## **VIII. Summary of Amendments:**

None.

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