

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 5 State Road Designations

SPONSOR(S): Grimsley

TIED BILLS: IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 88

	REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1)	Roads, Bridges & Ports Policy Committee	10 Y, 0 N	Johnson	Miller
2)	Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Committee		Fennell	Creamer
3)	Economic Development & Community Affairs Policy Council			
4)				
5)				

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Section 334.071, F.S., provides for legislative designations of transportation facilities for honorary or memorial purposes, or to distinguish a particular facility. The legislative designations do not “officially” change the current names of the facilities, nor does the statute require local governments and private entities to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone-number system listings.

The bill designates the portion of U.S. Highway 27 between the Florida-Georgia border in Gadsden County and Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County as the “Purple Heart Highway.”

The bill also directs the Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers designating the “Purple Heart Highway.”

If a marker is placed in 19 of the 20 counties where U.S. Highway 27 traverses, DOT estimates that the cost to erect 38 suitable road designating markers is approximately \$15,200. The expenditure is from the State Transportation Trust Fund and includes installation and maintenance costs.

The bill does not create any constitutional or other legal issues. It takes effect July 1, 2010.

HOUSE PRINCIPLES

Members are encouraged to evaluate proposed legislation in light of the following guiding principles of the House of Representatives

- Balance the state budget.
- Create a legal and regulatory environment that fosters economic growth and job creation.
- Lower the tax burden on families and businesses.
- Reverse or restrain the growth of government.
- Promote public safety.
- Promote educational accountability, excellence, and choice.
- Foster respect for the family and for innocent human life.
- Protect Florida's natural beauty.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

Section 334.071, F.S., provides for legislative designations of transportation facilities for honorary or memorial purposes, or to distinguish a particular facility. The legislative designations do not "officially" change the current names of the facilities, nor does the statute require local governments and private entities to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone-number system listings.

The statute requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to place a marker at each termini or intersection of an identified road or bridge, and to erect other markers it deems appropriate for the transportation facility. The statute also provides that a city or county must pass a resolution in support of a particular designation before road markers are erected. Additionally, if the designated road segment extends through multiple cities or counties, a resolution must be passed by each affected local government.

The "Purple Heart Highway" was previously designated on U.S. Highway 27 in Highlands County¹ and DOT has placed markers designating this highway.

Effect of Proposed Change

The bill designates the portion of U.S. Highway 27 between the Florida-Georgia border in Gadsden County and Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County as the "Purple Heart Highway." The counties on U.S. Highway 27 are: Alachua, Broward, Columbia, Gadsden, Glades, Hendry, Highlands, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lake, Leon, Levy, Madison, Marion, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, Polk, Sumter, Suwannee, and Taylor.

The bill also directs DOT to erect suitable markers designating the Purple Heart Highway.

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2010.

¹ Ch. 2005-292, L.O.F.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Designates U.S. Highway 27 as "Purple Heart Highway;" requires DOT to erect suitable markers.

Section 2: Provides an effective date.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

If a marker is placed where U.S. 27 enters each of the 19 of the 20 counties it traverses, DOT estimates that the cost to erect 38 suitable road designating markers is approximately \$15,200. This expenditure is from the State Transportation Trust Fund and includes installation and maintenance costs.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable because the bill does not appear to require the counties or cities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

None

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

Not applicable

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

According to the Military Order of the Purple Heart, resolutions approving the designation have been passed in 17 of the 20 counties that U.S. Highway 27 passes through. The counties that have yet to pass resolutions are Columbia, Levy, and Palm Beach.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

None