

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCB TPS 15-03 Transportation Facility Designations

SPONSOR(S): Transportation & Ports Subcommittee

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
Orig. Comm.: Transportation & Ports Subcommittee	12 Y, 0 N	Johnson	Vickers

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

State law 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 law require local governments and private entities to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone-number system listings.

The bill makes the following designations and directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) to erect suitable markers:

Broward County-Candice Ellize Francois Street.

Collier County-Mary Ellen Hawkins Street.

Escambia County-Lance Corporal Steven A. Brown Memorial Highway.

Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties-State Representative C. V. "Clay" Ford Memorial Bridge.

Hendry County-Sam Jones Trail.

Hillsborough County-Lieutenant Benedict J. Thomas Memorial Highway, Pepin Memorial Road, Gonzmart Memorial Road, Judge E.J. Salcines Way, Barkett Memorial Road, and Nick Capitano Memorial Road.

Lee County-Corporal Joseph R. Bertrand Memorial Highway and Caloosahatchee Bridge.

Levy County-Deputy Sheriff Atticus Haygood Ellzey Memorial Highway.

Marion County-Elizabeth Inez and Elijah Davis Highway.

Miami-Dade County-Trooper Patrick Ambroise Memorial Highway, Georgia Jones-Ayers Street, Dr. Clifford Garfield O'Connor Road, Lee Klein Way, and Virginia Gardens Boulevard.

Nassau County-Emmitt G. Coakley Memorial Highway

Orange County-Borinqueneer Boulevard

Pinellas County-Officer Charles "Charlie K." Kondek Memorial Highway.

Polk County-Maria Isabel Barajas-Martinez Memorial Highway.

Taylor County-Private First Class Joey Moody Bridge.

Volusia County-David G. Ledgerwood Memorial Highway and John Jacob "JJ" Curry Memorial Highway.

The bill has an estimated negative fiscal impact of approximately \$27,000 on the State Transportation Trust Fund which is the cost to DOT to erect the markers specified in the bill.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2015.

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 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.

Proposed Changes

The bill creates numerous honorary designations for various transportation facilities.

Subsection 1 designates that portion of State Road 655/Lake Shipp Drive between State Road 620 and U.S. 17/State Road 55 in Polk County as “Maria Isabel Barajas-Martinez Memorial Highway.”

Maria Isabel Barajas-Martinez was the founder of the Young American Dreamers Group and an activist in numerous organizations advocating for immigrant rights, community service, youth scholarships, food pantries, and many other contributions to central Florida communities. She passed away in a weather related traffic accident on June 24, 2012, at the age of 21.

Subsection 2 designates that portion of State Road 436/Semorán Boulevard between Lake Underhill Road and Hoffner Avenue in Orange County as “Borinqueneer Boulevard.”

The 65th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed the “Borinqueneers, from the original Taino name of the island (Borinquen), is a Puerto Rican Regiment of the United States Army. The 65th Infantry Regiment participated in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and in the War on Terror. The 65th Infantry Regiment was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2014.

Subsection 3 designates that portion of U.S. 1/State Road 15 between 5th Avenue and Old Dixie Highway as “Emmitt G. Coakley Memorial Highway.”

Emmitt G. Coakley was a long-time educator in Nassau County and member of the Nassau County Planning and Zoning Board. He also served two years in the United States Army and graduated from Bethune-Cookman College. He passed away on March 6, 2014.

Subsection 4 designates that portion State Road 80 between Hickey Creek Road and Carter Lane in Lee County as “Corporal Joseph R. Bertrand Memorial Highway.”

Corporal Joseph R. Bertrand was member of the Florida Highway Patrol killed in the line of duty. On December 22, 1967, Corporal Bertrand was shot and killed by a violator while conducting a driving under the influence investigation on State Road 80 in Fort Myers. Corporal Bertrand had served the citizens of Florida, with the Florida Highway Patrol, for 16 years and was 46 years of age at the time of his death.

Subsection 5 designates that portion of Interstate 75/State Road 93A between the Fowler Avenue and the Fletcher Avenue in Hillsborough County as “Lieutenant Benedict J. Thomas Memorial Highway.”

Lieutenant Benedict J. Thomas was a member of the Florida Highway Patrol killed in the line of duty. On June 9, 1989, Lieutenant Thomas was struck by a passing car while walking back to his vehicle after investigating an abandoned vehicle on Interstate 75 in Tampa. Lieutenant Thomas had served the citizens of Florida, with the Florida Highway Patrol, for 11 years and was 32 years of age at the time of his death.

Subsection 6 designates that portion of the Homestead Extension of Florida's Turnpike/State Road 821 between Milepost 34 and Milepost 36 in Miami-Dade County as "Trooper Patrick Ambroise Memorial Highway."

Trooper Patrick Ambroise was a member of the Florida Highway Patrol killed in the line of duty. On May 15, 2010, at 8:34 p.m., Trooper Ambroise was occupying his patrol vehicle which was parked on the shoulder of northbound State Road 821. A passing vehicle veered to the right onto the paved emergency shoulder and impacted the left rear section of Trooper Ambroise's patrol vehicle; Trooper Ambroise was killed as a result. Trooper Ambroise served the citizens of Florida, with the Florida Highway Patrol for four years and was 35 years old at the time of his death.

Subsection 7 designates that portion of U.S. 19/98/State Road 55 between North Otter Creek Avenue and S.E. 1st Avenue in Levy County as "Deputy Sheriff Atticus Haygood Ellzey Memorial Highway."

Deputy Sheriff Atticus Haygood Ellzey was a Levy County deputy sheriff who was shot and killed in the line of duty on January 28, 1945. In 1953, the Senate introduced SB 1953 to honor his death and to provide relief for his wife and 13 children.

Subsection 8 designates upon completion of replacement construction, bridge number 380096 on U.S. 221/State Road 55 over the Econfina River in Taylor County as "Private First Class Joey Moody Bridge."

Private First Class Joey Moody grew up in Taylor County and was killed in Korea on June 21, 1952, when he was sent to repair a communications line. He was posthumously awarded the National Defense Medal, Korean Combat Medal, Korean Battle Medal, and the Purple Heart.

Subsection 9 designates that portion of State Road 415 between Acorn Lake Road and Reed Ellis Road in Volusia County is designated as "David G. Ledgerwood Memorial Highway"

David G Ledgerwood was killed in Vietnam on April 29, 1968. He was posthumously promoted to the rank of sergeant and awarded the Bronze Star. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Subsection 10 designates that portion of State Road 35/NE 58th Avenue between County Road 314/NE 7th Street and SE 20th Street in Marion County as "Elizabeth Inez and Elijah Davis Highway."

Elizabeth Inez Davis was a devoted children's advocate and community leader in the Ocala area. She founded the Mount Canaan Community Youth Center. She passed away on December 6, 2002.

Elijah Davis volunteered for over 60 years at the Mount Canaan Community Youth Center and still volunteers at the age of 101.

Subsection 11 designates upon completion of construction, the bridge replacing bridge number 480035 between Gulf Breeze and Pensacola on U.S. 98/State Road 30 in Santa Rosa and Escambia Counties as "State Representative C.V. 'Clay' Ford Memorial Bridge."

State Representative C.V. "Clay" Ford served in the United States Army as an infantry officer and retired as a full Colonel. He served in the Arkansas House of Representatives in the 1970s. From 1990 through 2006 he was a councilman for the City of Gulf Breeze, and Mayor Pro Tem from 2001 through 2006. He also served in the Florida House of Representatives from February 27, 2007, until his death on March 18, 2013.

Subsection 12 designates that portion of U.S. 90/State Road 10A between State Road 742/Creighton Road and Summit Boulevard in Escambia County as “Lance Corporal Steven A. Brown Memorial Highway.”

Lance Corporal Steven A. Brown grew up in Pensacola. He voluntarily joined the Marines in 1966 and served two tours in Vietnam. He died in Vietnam on July 4, 1967. He received numerous military honors including the Purple Heart.

Subsection 13 designates that portion of County Road 833 between State Road 80 and the entrance to the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation in Hendry County as “Sam Jones Trail.”

Sam Jones was a medicine man and a major leader of the Seminole Tribe of Florida through the three Seminole Wars.

Subsection 14 designates that portion of Golden Gate Parkway between U.S. 41/State Road 45/Tamiami Trail and County Road 851 in Collier County as “Mary Ellen Hawkins Street.”

Mary Ellen Hawkins was Collier County’s first female state representative. She served in the Florida House of Representatives from 1974 to 1994, and subsequently remained active in promoting and improving her community.

Subsection 15 designates that portion of Palm Avenue between Pembroke Road and Miramar Parkway in Broward County as “Candice Ellize Francois Street.”

Candice Ellize Francois was born on March 10, 1994 in Miami. She was in the International Baccalaureate Program in high school where she was involved in multiple school activities. Shortly after graduating from high school, she was diagnosed with a rare cancer of the jawbone. She passed away on October 26, 2014, at the age of 20.

Subsection 16 designates that portion of State Road 9/N.W. 27th Avenue between State Road 924/N.W. 119th Street and N.W. 106th Street as “Georgia Jones-Ayers Street.”

Georgia Jones-Ayers was a civil rights activist known for her efforts to rehabilitate young criminal offenders through a program she co-founded in the 1980s. She passed away on February 17, 2015.

Subsection 17 designates that portion of U.S. 19A/State Road 595 between Tarpon Avenue and the Pasco County line in Pinellas County as “Officer Charles ‘Charlie K.’ Kondek Memorial Highway.”

Officer Charles “Charlie K.” Kondek served on the Tarpon Springs Police Department for 17 years. He previously served on the New York City Police Department for five years. He was killed in the line of duty on December 21, 2014.

Subsection 18 designates that portion of State Road 583/56th Street between State Road 574/East Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard and Harney Road in Hillsborough County as “Pepin Memorial Road.”

Arthur Pepin founded Pepin Distributing Company and was a major philanthropist in Tampa. He passed away in 2000. His wife, Polly, passed away in 2012.

Subsection 19 designates that portion of County Road 574/7th Avenue between North 20th Street and 22nd Street in Hillsborough County as “Gonzmart Memorial Road.”

The Gonzmart’s are descendants of the Hernandez family, which founded the Columbia Restaurant in Tampa in 1905, which is Florida’s oldest restaurant. Members of the Gonzmart family currently own the Columbia Restaurant Group.

Subsection 20 designates that portion of Howard Avenue between West Main Street and West Columbus Drive in Hillsborough County as “Judge E.J. Salcines Way.”

Judge E.J. Salcines was a career federal and state prosecutor for 22 years and in private practice for 13 years before being appointed as a judge on the appellate court in 1998, where he served until his retirement in 2008.

Subsection 21 designates that portion of Old Water Street between South Franklin Street and Channelside Drive in Hillsborough County as “Barkett Memorial Road.”

The Barkett family is prominent in the petroleum industry and currently owns an oil blending and packaging facility in Tampa. Its Amalie Oil Company is the largest independently owned lubricant marketer, manufacturer, and packaging company in the United States.

Subsection 22 designates that portion of East 9th Avenue between North 13th Street and North 14th Street as “Nick Capitano Memorial Road.”

Nick Capitano was a prominent Tampa business man who founded Radiant Oil Co. in 1931. He was also involved in charitable causes in the Tampa community. He passed away in May 2014 at the age of 98.

Subsection 23 designated bridge no. 120002 over the Caloosahatchee River on U.S. 41/State Road 45/Cleveland Avenue in Lee County as “Caloosahatchee Bridge.”

The Caloosahatchee River is a river on the southwest Gulf Coast of Florida in the United States, approximately 67 miles long. It drains rural areas on the northern edge of the Everglades, east of Fort Myers. An important link in the Okeechobee Waterway, a manmade inland waterway system of southern Florida, the river forms a tidal estuary along most of its course and has recently become the subject of efforts to restore and preserve the Everglades.

Subsection 24 designates that portion of U.S. 17/State Road 15 between Golden Hills Boulevard and Lake Winona Road in Volusia County as “John Jacob ‘JJ’ Curry Memorial Highway.”

John Jacob “JJ” Curry was a Volusia County firefighter who was killed during a training exercise on November 27, 2007.

Subsection 25 designates that portion of N.W. 32nd Avenue between N.W. 87th Street and N.W. 83rd Street as “Dr. Clifford Garfield O’Connor Street,”

Dr. Clifford Garfield O’Connor was a podiatrist who also assisted in training new physicians. He also participated in several medical missions to Jamaica and Haiti. He passed away on February 23, 2015, at the age of 50.

Subsection 26 designates that portion of State Road 973/87th Avenue between State Road 94/Kendell Drive and S.W. 92nd Street as “Lee Klein Way.”

Lee Klein began her career as a volunteer charity worker for children’s causes in 1956. In 1965, she founded what is now known as the Children’s Cancer Caring Center. She remains its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

Subsection 27 designates State Road 948/N.W. 36th Street between Curtiss Parkway/N.W. 57th Avenue and N.W. 67th Avenue in Miami-Dade County as “Virginia Gardens Boulevard.”

Virginia Gardens Boulevard is designated for the portion of State Road 948 which runs adjacent to the Village of Virginia Gardens.

Subsection 28 directs DOT to erect suitable markers designating each of the above designations.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2015.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 Creates transportation facility designations and directs 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:

DOT will incur costs of approximately \$27,000 from the State Transportation Trust Fund for erecting markers for the designations. This is based on the assumption that two markers for each designation will be erected at a cost of \$500 per marker. DOT will also incur the recurring costs of maintaining these signs over time, and for future replacement of the signs as necessary

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. This bill does not appear to affect county or municipal governments.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

The following designations are not on the State Highway System:

- Sam Jones Trail
- Mary Ellen Hawkins Street

- Candice Ellize Francois Street
- Gonzmart Memorial Road
- Judge E.J. Salcines Way
- Barkett Memorial Road
- Nick Capitano Memorial Road
- Dr. Clifford Garfield O'Connor Road.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

On March 17, 2015, the Transportation & Ports Subcommittee adopted one amendment to the PCB. The amendment clarified the locations of some of the road designations and added an additional designation for Virginia Gardens Boulevard.

The analysis is drafted to the PCB as amended.