

By Representative Merchant

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to road designations;
3 designating a portion of State Road A1A in the
4 towns of Ocean Ridge and Manalapan in Palm
5 Beach County as a state historic and scenic
6 highway; providing definitions; prohibiting the
7 expenditure of state funds for certain
8 purposes; providing for the application of the
9 act; directing the Division of Historical
10 Resources to provide for the erection of
11 suitable markers; providing an effective date.

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13 WHEREAS, State Road A1A in Palm Beach County is lined
14 by many early homes depicting architectural history in the
15 county, and

16 WHEREAS, State Road A1A was the main route of travel
17 and commerce for the early residents of lands now incorporated
18 within the towns of Ocean Ridge and Manalapan, and

19 WHEREAS, State Road A1A in the towns of Ocean Ridge and
20 Manalapan maintains its original character and appearance, in
21 contrast to other, more modern highways and roads in Palm
22 Beach County, and

23 WHEREAS, the residents of the towns of Ocean Ridge and
24 Manalapan desire to maintain the historic and esthetic beauty
25 of State Road A1A in their respective jurisdictions, NOW,
26 THEREFORE,

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28 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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30 Section 1. As used in this act, the term "A1A," also
31 known as "North and South Ocean Boulevards," means those

1 portions of A1A located between the northernmost boundary of
2 the town of Manalapan and the southernmost boundary of Ocean
3 Ridge in Palm Beach County.

4 Section 2. That portion of State Road A1A described in
5 section 1 is hereby designated as a state historic and scenic
6 highway. No state funds shall be expended by any public body
7 or agency for the following purposes:

8 (1) To cut or remove any tree having a diameter at its
9 thickest part in excess of 4 inches within 35 feet of either
10 side of the paved surface of the highway, or to engage in any
11 activity which requires the removal without replacement of
12 such a tree.

13 (2) To alter the physical dimensions or location of
14 the highway except for the addition of primary or secondary
15 roads intersecting the limits of A1A.

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17 Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent the ordinary
18 maintenance and repair of A1A, provided the physical
19 dimensions and location of the highway are preserved, nor to
20 prevent any work that is necessary for the public health or
21 safety as determined by the agency having jurisdiction over
22 the portion of A1A involved, nor to prevent such action deemed
23 necessary to clear or maintain the highway subsequent to a
24 natural disaster such as a hurricane. With respect to that
25 portion of A1A located within the jurisdiction of the town of
26 Manalapan, nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent
27 the removal of invasive plant species on the highway or
28 highway right-of-way. The term "ordinary maintenance" means
29 those activities necessary to preserve the existing traffic
30 patterns and to accommodate the volume of traffic operating on
31 A1A on the effective date of this act. However, the

1 preservation of A1A and its landscaping take priority over
2 considerations of traffic management, and the public safety
3 shall not be construed to require alterations in A1A or its
4 landscaping when alternative means of promoting safety,
5 including more restrictive regulations, are available.

6 Section 3. The Division of Historical Resources of the
7 Department of State shall provide for the erection of suitable
8 markers on and along A1A, as described in section 1 of this
9 act.

10 Section 4. The provisions of this act shall not
11 supersede a more restrictive law, ordinance, or rule already
12 in effect or taking effect after the effective date of this
13 act.

14 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
15 law.

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18 HOUSE SUMMARY

19 Designates a portion of State Road A1A in the towns of
20 Ocean Ridge and Manalapan in Palm Beach County as a state
21 historic and scenic highway. See bill for details.
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