

By Representatives Melvin, Peaden and J. Miller

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to bridge designations; naming
3 the Destin Bridge at East Pass the "William T.
4 Marler Bridge"; providing for the the erection
5 of markers; providing an effective date.
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7 WHEREAS, William T. Marler, known affectionately by all
8 in the community of Destin, Florida, as "Uncle Billy," came to
9 the community that is now known as Destin in 1879 at the age
10 of thirteen to fish with Captain Leonard Destin, Sr., and

11 WHEREAS, "Uncle Billy" became Destin's first
12 postmaster, a position he held for 46 years, bringing the mail
13 by boat from Pensacola, and

14 WHEREAS, "Uncle Billy" was a fine carpenter who built
15 everything from boats to caskets, and

16 WHEREAS, "Uncle Billy" established a tradition in
17 Destin, still practiced today, of a Christmas Eve party for
18 the children of Destin, and

19 WHEREAS, "Uncle Billy" served as the light tender for
20 the East Pass buoys, guiding boats safely home for 34 years,
21 and

22 WHEREAS, William T. Marler is held in high esteem by
23 all the residents of Destin, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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27 Section 1. (1) The Destin Bridge at East Pass is
28 designated the "William T. Marler Bridge."

29 (2) The Department of Transportation is directed to
30 erect suitable markers bearing the designation made by this
31 act.

1 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
2 law.

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5 SENATE SUMMARY

6 Designates the Destin Bridge at East Pass as the "William
7 T. Marler Bridge." Provides for the erection of markers.

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