

STORAGE NAME: h1019.ca

DATE: March 29, 2000

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AS REVISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
ANALYSIS**

BILL #: HB 1019

RELATING TO: POW & MIA Markers/Rest Areas

SPONSOR(S): Representative Morroni and others

TIED BILL(S): None

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) TRANSPORTATION (EDC) YEAS 9 NAYS 0
 - (2) COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (PRC)
 - (3) TRANSPORTATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS (FRC)
 - (4)
 - (5)
-

I. SUMMARY:

The bill directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) to display an appropriate marker or plaque at each interstate rest area to recognize members of the United States Armed Forces who are missing in action and unaccounted for. DOT will cooperate with the Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA) in implementing these displays.

The bill will have a fiscal impact on DOT that is estimated at a minimum of \$12,000 and a maximum of \$240,000. See "FISCAL COMMENTS" section for details.

The Committee on Transportation adopted one amendment which is traveling with the bill. As indicated in the "AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES" section the amendment requires The Department of Transportation to fly the POW/MIA flag year round at each rest area along interstate highways in this state.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. DOES THE BILL SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>Less Government</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. <u>Lower Taxes</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. <u>Individual Freedom</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. <u>Personal Responsibility</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. <u>Family Empowerment</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain:

B. PRESENT SITUATION:

Currently, there are no markers honoring POW's and MIA's at the 72 rest areas and 8 turnpike service centers along Interstate Highways in Florida. The Department of Transportation in cooperation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs is installing flag poles at all rest areas in order to fly the POW/MIA flag. This process should be completed by 4/10/00.

C. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The bill directs the Department of Transportation to display an appropriate marker or plaque at each interstate rest area to recognize members of the United States Armed Forces who are missing in action and unaccounted for. The Department of Transportation will cooperate with the Department of Veterans' Affairs in implementing these displays.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

Section 1: Requires the Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs to display an appropriate marker or plaque at each rest area along interstate highways in this state recognizing the sacrifices of those servicemen and servicewomen still unaccounted for and acknowledging the sacrifices of their families.

Section 2: Provides an effective date of upon becoming law.

III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

N/A

2. Expenditures:

There will be an increase in expenditures depending on the amount of monies the DOT spends in placing the POW & MIA markers or plaques.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

N/A

2. Expenditures:

N/A

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

N/A

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The bill will have a fiscal impact on DOT that is indeterminate. If signs are used, the cost is approximately \$150 per sign. However, plaques could cost from approximately \$1500 to \$3000. There are currently 72 rest areas and 8 turnpike service centers to be designated. The estimated cost per sign assumes that standard DOT highway sign material will be used for the markers. Therefore, the fiscal impact on DOT is estimated at a minimum of \$12,000 if markers are used, however if granite or bronze plaques are installed the impact could be up to \$240,000.

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

The bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take action requiring the expenditure of funds.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

The bill does not reduce the authority that local governments have to raise revenues in the aggregate.

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

This bill does not reduce the percentage of state tax shared with local governments.

V. COMMENTS:

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

N/A

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B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

N/A

C. OTHER COMMENTS:

There is an identical bill, Senate Bill 1018 by Senator Sullivan.

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

The Committee on Transportation adopted one amendment on March 21, 2000, traveling with the bill. The amendment requires DOT to fly the POW/MIA flag at all interstate rest areas year round. Because DOT has already started implementing the flying of these flags and has incurred most of the cost of complying with this requirement, this amendment should have little or no fiscal impact.

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION:

Prepared by:

Staff Director:

Phillip B. Miller

John R. Johnston

AS REVISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

Prepared by:

Staff Director:

Terri S. Boggis

Joan Highsmith-Smith