

By Senators Dawson and Geller

30-197-02

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to road designations;  
3           designating the Sawgrass Expressway in Broward  
4           County as the "Jerry Thompson Expressway";  
5           directing the Department of Transportation to  
6           erect markers; providing an effective date.

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8           WHEREAS, Gerald F. Thompson, chair and founding member  
9           of the Broward County Expressway Authority, vigorously fought  
10          to develop the Sawgrass Expressway in West Broward on time and  
11          under budget, and

12          WHEREAS, the regional shopping center and tourist  
13          attraction Sawgrass Mills and the hockey arena and other area  
14          development would not have been possible without the  
15          expressway, and

16          WHEREAS, Gerald F. Thompson served 22 years as a county  
17          commissioner, the longest of any person in Broward history,  
18          and

19          WHEREAS, Gerald F. Thompson helped merge the county's  
20          libraries into a countywide system, was the swing vote for the  
21          Broward County Convention Center, fought to get an  
22          entertainment tax passed to support arts and culture, and  
23          helped develop an outstanding county park system, and

24          WHEREAS, Gerald F. Thompson championed the Performing  
25          Art Center, Fort Lauderdale Hollywood International Airport  
26          Expansion, and women's rights, and

27          WHEREAS, Gerald F. Thompson's public service dates to  
28          1964, when he was elected councilman and then Mayor of Wilton  
29          Manors, serving for 10 years, and

30          WHEREAS, Gerald F. Thompson served as President of the  
31          Broward League of Cities, Chair of the South Florida Regional

1 Planning Council, Director of the Florida League of Cities,  
2 and Director of the National Association of County Officials,  
3 and as a member of the Florida Association of Counties, and  
4 WHEREAS, Gerald F. Thompson died March 29, 1999, after  
5 dedicating nearly half of his life to public service, NOW,  
6 THEREFORE,

7  
8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10 Section 1. (1) The Sawgrass Expressway (SR 869)  
11 located in Broward County is designated the "Jerry Thompson  
12 Expressway" in honor of the late Broward County Commissioner  
13 who served from November 1974 through November 1996.

14 (2) The Department of Transportation shall erect  
15 suitable markers bearing the designation made by this act.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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19 SENATE SUMMARY

20 Designates the Sawgrass Expressway in Broward County as  
21 the "Jerry Thompson Expressway." Directs the Department  
22 of Transportation to erect markers.

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