

By Representative Prieguez

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to road designations;  
3           designating a specified portion of Le Jeune  
4           Road in the City of Coral Gables in Miami-Dade  
5           County as a state historic road; prohibiting  
6           the expenditure of state funds for certain  
7           purposes; providing construction of the act;  
8           directing the Division of Historical Resources  
9           of the Department of State to provide for the  
10          erection of suitable markers; providing an  
11          effective date.

12  
13           WHEREAS, the master plan of the City of Coral Gables,  
14          created in the early 1920's, was a singular achievement  
15          unequaled in its blend of beauty and practicality and  
16          unsurpassed in its foresight, and

17           WHEREAS, that portion of Le Jeune Road situated within  
18          the corporate limits of the City of Coral Gables and lying  
19          between U.S. Highway 1 and Cartagena Plaza is a roadway graced  
20          by huge mahogany trees that have matured for at least 40  
21          years, forming a canopy for the roadway that offers shade to  
22          residents and passersby and thereby creating the beauty and  
23          repose sought by the founder of the City of Coral Gables,  
24          George E. Merrick, and

25           WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Coral Gables have  
26          expressed their unalterable opposition to the widening of this  
27          portion of Le Jeune Road, to the alteration of its appearance,  
28          or to its utilization as a north-south arterial highway, and

29           WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Coral Gables  
30          desire to maintain the historic and aesthetic beauty of this  
31          portion of Le Jeune Road, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

2

3           Section 1. That portion of Le Jeune Road situated  
4 within the corporate limits of the City of Coral Gables and  
5 lying between U.S. Highway 1 and Cartagena Plaza is hereby  
6 designated as a state historic road. No state funds shall be  
7 expended by any public body or agency for the following  
8 purposes:

9           (1) To widen or broaden that portion of Le Jeune Road  
10 described in this section or to alter its physical dimensions  
11 or location.

12           (2) To alter, remove, or replace any landscaping of  
13 that portion of Le Jeune Road described in this section, which  
14 shall include any mahogany trees on either side of the paved  
15 surface of the road.

16

17 Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent the ordinary  
18 maintenance and repair of that portion of Le Jeune Road  
19 situated within the corporate limits of the City of Coral  
20 Gables and lying between U.S. Highway 1 and Cartagena Plaza,  
21 provided the physical dimensions and location of the highway  
22 are preserved; nor to prevent the removal or replacement of  
23 any landscaping, including any mahogany trees located on  
24 either side of the paved surface of the road, if such  
25 landscaping is determined by the appropriate governmental  
26 authority to be diseased or damaged; nor to prevent any work  
27 that is necessary for the public health or safety as  
28 determined by the agency having jurisdiction over the portion  
29 of Le Jeune Road described in this section; nor to prevent the  
30 removal of invasive plant species on the roadway or  
31 right-of-way; nor to prevent such action deemed necessary to

