

HB 1383

2004

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to installations honoring military
3 veterans and their families; creating the "Ellwood
4 Robinson 'Bob' Pipping, Jr., Memorial Act"; providing a
5 popular name; providing purpose; authorizing the
6 Department of Transportation to enter into contract with a
7 group or organization for the installation and maintenance
8 of plaques, markers, monuments, memorials, or various
9 retired military equipment at rest stops; providing for a
10 committee to approve proposals for the contracts;
11 providing for membership and terms of members of the
12 committee; requiring approval by said committee for such
13 contracts; providing conditions for approval; providing
14 that the group or organization shall be responsible for
15 costs; providing an effective date.

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

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19 Section 1. This act shall be known by the popular name the
20 "Ellwood Robinson 'Bob' Pipping, Jr., Memorial Act."

21 Section 2. The purpose of this act is to create an
22 environment in which the people of Florida and its visitors will
23 be reminded of the accomplishments made by our military veterans
24 in past conflicts and the continuing sacrifices made by those
25 veterans and their families to protect the freedoms we enjoy
26 today.

27 Section 3. The Department of Transportation is authorized
28 to enter into contract with any group or organization for the
29 installation and maintenance of monuments and memorials honoring

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30 our military veterans at highway rest areas around the state
31 pursuant to the provisions of this section.

32 (1) Proposals for contracts under this act must be
33 approved by a committee composed of the secretary of the
34 Department of Transportation or the secretary's designee, the
35 executive director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs or the
36 executive director's designee, and three members of the Florida
37 Commission on Veterans' Affairs appointed by the chair of the
38 commission. Appointed members of the committee shall be
39 appointed for terms of not longer than 2 years and may be
40 reappointed to the committee. All appointed members' terms shall
41 expire on January 31 of each even-numbered year.

42 (2) Installations may consist of monuments, memorials,
43 plaques, markers, or various retired military equipment and must
44 honor the accomplishments of military veterans and the
45 sacrifices made by them and their families.

46 (3) The group or organization making the proposal shall be
47 responsible for all costs of the monument and its installation.

48 (4) The group or organization making the proposal shall be
49 responsible for the cost of maintenance of the monument for a
50 period of 10 years. The cost of maintenance shall be secured by
51 sufficient funds provided by the group or organization making
52 the proposal deposited into a maintenance account held by the
53 Department of Transportation. In lieu of the maintenance
54 account, the group or organization making the proposal may
55 provide a bond securing the cost of removal of the monument
56 should the group or organization making the proposal fail to
57 provide sufficient funds for maintenance for a period of 2
58 consecutive years.

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Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.