

1 A bill to be entitled

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

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

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

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

30 Section 3. The Department of Transportation is
31 authorized to enter into contract with any group or

1 organization for the installation and maintenance of monuments
2 and memorials honoring our military veterans at highway rest
3 areas around the state pursuant to the provisions of this
4 section.

5 (1) Proposals for contracts under this act must be
6 approved by a committee composed of the Secretary of
7 Transportation or the secretary's designee, the executive
8 director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs or the
9 executive director's designee, and three members of the
10 Florida Commission on Veterans' Affairs appointed by the chair
11 of the commission. Appointed members of the committee shall be
12 appointed for terms of not longer than 2 years and may be
13 reappointed to the committee. All appointed members' terms
14 shall expire on January 31 of each even-numbered year.

15 (2) Installations may consist of monuments, memorials,
16 plaques, markers, or various retired military equipment and
17 must honor the accomplishments of military veterans and the
18 sacrifices made by them and their families.

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

22 (4) The group or organization making the proposal
23 shall be responsible for the cost of maintenance of the
24 monument. The cost of maintenance shall be secured by
25 sufficient funds provided annually by the group or
26 organization making the proposal deposited into a maintenance
27 account held by the Department of Transportation. In addition,
28 the group or organization making the proposal will provide a
29 10 year bond securing the cost of removal of the monument, and
30 any modifications made to the site as part of the placement of
31 the monument, for use should the group or organization making

1 the proposal fail to provide sufficient funds for maintenance
2 for a period of 2 consecutive years. Prior to expiration, the
3 bond shall be renewed for another 10 year period if the
4 memorial is to remain in place.

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

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