24-1223A-06

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to highway designations;
3	designating a portion of State Road 520 in
4	Brevard County as the "Patrick D. Smith
5	Causeway"; directing the Department of
6	Transportation to erect suitable markers;
7	providing an effective date.
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9	WHEREAS, Patrick D. Smith was born October 8, 1927, in
10	Mendenhall, Mississippi, graduated from the University of
11	Mississippi in 1947, and received his M.A. in 1959, and
12	WHEREAS, Patrick D. Smith worked in public relations
13	for several colleges and universities in Mississippi and moved
14	to Florida in 1966 to become the director of public relations
15	at Brevard Community College, retiring in 1988, and
16	WHEREAS, Patrick D. Smith has authored several books
17	addressing various social issues that, in his words, reflect
18	"the plight of the underdogs in life," and
19	WHEREAS, Patrick D. Smith's work, The Beginning,
20	highlights the struggles of poor whites and blacks in the
21	south during the civil rights movement in the 1960's, and
22	WHEREAS, Patrick D. Smith lived among the Seminole
23	Indian Tribe while researching his books, Forever Island and
24	Allapattah, which highlight the Seminole Indians' struggle to
25	cope with the modern world, and
26	WHEREAS, Patrick D. Smith lived in several migrant
27	worker camps while researching his book, Angel City, which
28	focused on the virtual slavery of migrant workers, and
29	WHEREAS, Patrick D. Smith was twice invited to attend
30	Russia's writer's convention and while in Russia wrote the
31	book, <u>In Search of the Russian Bear</u> , which is an intimate

1	glimpse into the minds and hearts of the people of Russia who
2	lived under the Iron Curtain, and
3	WHEREAS, Patrick D. Smith honorably served his country
4	as a merchant marine in World War II and later wrote the book,
5	The Seas that Mourn, which tells the stories of brave merchant
6	marines who served their country during that war, and
7	WHEREAS, Patrick D. Smith's other works include, The
8	River is Home, Forever Island, and A Land Remembered, and
9	WHEREAS, Patrick D. Smith's most recent work is The
10	<u>Last Ride</u> , which he co-wrote with Glen "Pee Wee" Mercer, about
11	a bull rider who was paralyzed in a bull-riding accident in
12	1995, and
13	WHEREAS, throughout his world travels, Patrick D. Smith
14	has always ably represented the residents of this state and
15	Brevard County, and
16	WHEREAS, Brevard County is proud to honor such an
17	outstanding member of its community by recognizing his hard
18	work, many accomplishments, and service to the people of the
19	great State of Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,
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21	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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23	Section 1. Patrick D. Smith Causeway designated;
24	Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers
25	(1) The portion of State Road 520 in Brevard County
26	which is between mile post 13.2 and mile post 15.3 and lies
27	approximately between the West Banana River and Cape Canaveral
28	Hospital is designated as the "Patrick D. Smith Causeway."
29	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to
30	erect suitable markers designating the Patrick D. Smith

31 <u>Causeway as described in subsection (1).</u>

1	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.
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4	SENATE SUMMARY
5	Designates a portion of State Road 520 in Brevard County as the "Patrick D. Smith Causeway." Provides for the
6	erection of markers.
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