

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Transportation Committee

BILL: SB 782

INTRODUCER: Senator Latvala

SUBJECT: Road and Bridge Designations

DATE: February 17, 2011 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Sookhoo	Spalla	TR	Pre-meeting
2.			BC	
3.			RC	
4.				
5.				
6.				

I. Summary:

Section 334.071, F.S., specifies the purpose and effect of the designation of roads, bridges, and other transportation facilities for honorary or memorial purposes by the Florida Legislature. These designations are for honorary purposes only, and do not require changing of street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 listings. The bill designates the following road as follows:

State Road 687 in Pinellas County from I-275 to I-175 as “Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger and Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz Memorial Highway.”

This bill creates an undesignated section of law.

II. Present Situation:

Section 334.071, F.S., provides: (1) Legislative designations of transportation facilities are for honorary or memorial purposes, or to distinguish a particular facility, and may not be construed to require any action by local governments or private parties regarding the changing of any street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone number system listings, unless the legislation specifically provides for such changes; (2) When the Legislature establishes road or bridge designations, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is required to place markers only at the termini specified for each highway segment or bridge designated by the law creating the designation, and to erect any other markers it deems appropriate for the transportation facility; and (3) The FDOT may not erect the markers for honorary road or bridge designations unless the affected city or county commission enacts a resolution supporting the designation. When the designated road or bridge segment is located in more than one city or

county, resolutions supporting the designations must be passed by each affected local government prior to the erection of markers.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The effects of the bill are as follows:

Section 1: The bill designates State Road 687 in Pinellas County from I-275 to I-175 as “Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger and Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz Memorial Highway”. Also this bill directs FDOT to erect suitable markers.

Sgt. Thomas J. Baitlinger served as a law enforcement officer at the St. Petersburg Police Department for over 15. He voluntarily served as a mentor for students at Gibbs High School, and Sgt. Baitlinger also volunteered for other various committees including the police pension board.

Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz served as a law enforcement officer at the St. Petersburg Police Department for over 11 years. Officer Yaslowitz proved to be an invaluable asset to the department by exemplifying characteristics of public service. He is remembered by his colleagues for his bravery and drive for excellence during his years of service.

Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger and Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz died in the line of duty on January 24, 2011, while responding to a call for back up. Sgt. Baitinger is survived by his wife, Paige, and Officer Yaslowitz is survived by his wife, Lorraine, and three children.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The FDOT will incur costs of approximately \$800 (from the State Transportation Trust Fund) for erecting markers for the designation. This is based on the assumption that two markers will be erected at a cost of \$400 per marker. The FDOT will also have to pay the recurring cost of maintaining these signs over time, and for future replacement of the signs as necessary.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.