

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 Community Affairs Committee

BILL: CS/CS/SB's 232, 848 and 870

INTRODUCER: Community Affairs Committee; Transportation Committee; and Senators Norman, Oelrich and Fasano

SUBJECT: Transportation Facility Designations

DATE: February 13, 2012 **REVISED:** _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Abrams	Buford	TR	Fav/CS
2.	Roam	Yeatman	CA	Fav/CS
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Statement of Substantial Changes |
| B. AMENDMENTS..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Technical amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant amendments were recommended |

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. This bill designates the following roads:

- The portion of Interstate 275 in Hillsborough County between the Livingston Avenue Bridge and the intersection of Interstate 75 at the Hillsborough-Pasco County line is designated as “Corporal Michael Joseph Roberts Memorial Highway.”
- The portion of State Road 26A in Alachua County between West University Avenue and S.W. 25th Street in Gainesville is designated as “Deputy Jack A. Romeis Road.”
- The portion of U.S Highway 41/State Road 45 between State Road 50 in Hernando County and State Road 52 in Pasco County is designated as “Deputy John C. Mecklenburg Memorial Highway.”

- Milepost 22.182 on State Road 27 in Highlands County is designated as “Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Sgt. Nicholas G. Sottile Memorial.”
- The Interstate 295/State Road 9A overpass (Bridge Numbers 720256 and 720347) over Interstate 10/State Road 8 in Duval County is designated as "Duval County Law Enforcement Memorial Overpass."
- The portion of State Road 679/Pinellas Bayway South in Pinellas County from north of the pedestrian crossing to State Road 682/Pinellas Bayway South is designated as “Gene Carpenter Memorial Highway.”

This bill creates undesignated sections of Florida 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 the markers.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 designates the portion of Interstate 275 between the Livingston Avenue Bridge and the intersection of Interstate 75 at the Hillsborough-Pasco County line as “Corporal Michael Joseph Roberts Memorial Highway.” The bill directs FDOT to erect suitable markers.

Corporal Roberts was shot and killed in the line of duty after 11 years of service with the Tampa Police. During his service with the Tampa Police Department, Corporal Roberts was honored with a Life Saving Award in 2005 as well as numerous letters of appreciation from citizens and other law enforcement agencies.

Section 2 designates the portion of State Road 26A in Alachua County between West University Avenue and S.W. 25th Street in Gainesville as “Deputy Jack A. Romeis Road.” The bill directs FDOT to erect suitable markers.

Deputy Romeis died after sustaining injuries due to an automobile accident while in pursuit of a stolen vehicle. Deputy Romeis had served as a full time deputy for 5 years and had previously served as a reserve deputy for 15 years.

Section 3 designates the portion of U.S Highway 41/State Road 45 between State Road 50 in Hernando County and State Road 52 in Pasco County as “Deputy John C. Mecklenburg Memorial Highway.” The bill directs FDOT to erect suitable markers.

Deputy John C. Mecklenburg was killed in the line of duty as a result of injuries sustained in a crash on July 3, 2011. Deputy Mecklenburg strived to protect the citizenry and the Hernando County community while working in the Sheriff’s Department for more than two years. He served with loyalty, honor, courage and compassion.

Section 4 designates Milepost 22.182 on State Road 27 in Highlands County as “Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Sgt. Nicholas G. Sottile Memorial.” The bill directs FDOT to erect suitable markers.

Sgt. Nicholas G. Sottile shot and killed in the line of duty while performing a traffic stop at the intersection of U.S. 27 and Whitmore Road in Highlands County. Sgt. Sottile protected the citizens of Florida for nearly 24 years as a Florida Highway Patrol Trooper.

Section 5 designates the Interstate 295/State Road 9A overpass (Bridge Numbers 720256 and 720347) over Interstate 10/State Road 8 in Duval County as "Duval County Law Enforcement Memorial Overpass." The bill directs FDOT to erect suitable markers.

This memorial is dedicated to the men and women in all law enforcement agencies located within Duval County who have died in the line of duty.

Section 6 designates the portion of State Road 679/Pinellas Bayway South in Pinellas County from north of the pedestrian crossing to State Road 682/Pinellas Bayway South as “Gene Carpenter Memorial Highway.”

P.E. "Gene" Carpenter directed all the Federal Highway efforts in Florida from 1971 until his retirement in 1986. He worked through both the Askew and Graham administrations. He headed up two of the largest building projects in Florida history, the rebuilding of the Sunshine Skyway and the Overseas Highway in the Florida Keys. He was very involved in conservation efforts for the Florida Panther on Alligator Alley.

Section 7 provides an effective date of July 1, 2012.

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:

Staff estimates the cost to erect road designation markers required under this bill to be at least \$6,000. This is based on the assumption that 12 markers will be erected for six road designations at a cost of no less than \$500 each. This includes sign fabrication, installation, and maintenance over time. The estimate does not include any additional expenses related to maintenance of traffic, dedication event costs, or replacement necessitated by damage, vandalism, or storm events.

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.)

CS by Community Affairs Committee on February 13, 2012:

The committee substitute adds the “Gene Carpenter Memorial Highway” designation in Pinellas County and directs FDOT to erect suitable markers.

CS by Transportation Committee on February 2, 2012:

The committee substitute combines bills 232, 848 and 870, and adds the “Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Sgt. Nicolas G. Sottile Memorial” and the “Duval County Law Enforcement Overpass” designations.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
