

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: PCS/SB's 232, 848 & 870

INTRODUCER: Transportation Committee and Senators Norman, Oelrich, and Fasano

SUBJECT: Transportation Facility Designations

DATE: January 30, 2012 **REVISED:** _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Abrams	Buford	TR	Pre-meeting
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
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 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."

This bill creates undesigned 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:

The effects of the bill are as follows:

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 has 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 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 died 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: The bill will take effect on July 1, 2012, if passed by the Legislature.

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 \$5,000. This is based on the assumption that 10 markers will be erected for five 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.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

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