

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 849 Transportation Facility Designations

SPONSOR(S): Jenne

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 948

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee	10 Y, 0 N	Johnson	Vickers
2) Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee			
3) Government Accountability Committee			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

State law authorizes legislative designations of transportation facilities for honorary or memorial purposes or to distinguish a particular facility. The legislative designations do not officially change the current names of the facilities, nor does the law require local governments and private entities to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone system listings.

The bill creates the Tera Ross Memorial Interchange in Lake County and directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) to erect suitable markers for the designation.

DOT estimates a \$1,000 negative fiscal impact to the State Transportation Trust Fund associated with erecting suitable markers for the above designation. The cost can be absorbed within existing DOT resources.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

Section 267.062, F.S., provides for the naming of state buildings and other facilities. The statute provides that except as specifically provided by law, state buildings, roads, bridges, parks, recreational complexes and other similar facilities may not be named for a living person.

Section 334.071, F.S., authorizes legislative designations of transportation facilities for honorary or memorial purposes or to distinguish a particular facility. The legislative designations do not officially change the current names of the facilities nor does the statute require local governments and private entities to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone-number system listings.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) must place a marker at each termini or intersection of an identified road or bridge and erect other markers it deems appropriate for the transportation facility. The appropriate city or county commission must pass a resolution in support of a particular designation before road markers are erected. Additionally, if the designated road segment extends through multiple cities or counties, a resolution must be passed by each affected local government.

Proposed Changes

The bill designates the interchange on S.R. 91/the Florida Turnpike at mile marker 279 in Lake County as the "Tera Ross Memorial Interchange."

Tera Ross was a student and softball player at Jacksonville State University in Alabama. In December 2003, while driving on the Florida Turnpike her vehicle went off the shoulder and crashed head-on into a truck carrying explosives to a military base. Her death was instrumental in securing median guardrails and other safety improvements on the Turnpike, likely saving numerous lives.

The bill directs DOT to erect suitable markers for the above designation.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 designates the Tera Ross Memorial Interchange and directs DOT to erect suitable markers.

Section 2 provides an effective date of July 1, 2018.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

DOT estimates a cost of \$1,000 per designation for the appropriate markers, which provides for two signs per designation at \$500 per sign.¹ Therefore, the bill has an estimated negative fiscal impact

¹ Email for Florida Department of Transportation, August 28, 2017.

of \$1,000 to the State Transportation Trust Fund. This cost can be absorbed within existing DOT resources.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable. This bill does not appear to affect county or municipal government.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

None.