

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 63 Transportation Facility Designations

SPONSOR(S): Chaney

TIED BILLS: IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 96

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Transportation & Modals Subcommittee	18 Y, 0 N	Lewis	Hinshelwood
2) Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee	15 Y, 0 N	Hicks	Davis
3) Infrastructure Strategies Committee			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

State law authorizes legislative designations of transportation facilities, such as bridges, interchanges, or portions of roads, for honorary or memorial purposes or to distinguish a particular facility. Legislative designations do not change the official names of the facilities and do not require local governments and private entities to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone system listings to account for the designations. The Department of Transportation (DOT) may not erect the markers for each designation unless the appropriate city or county commission enacts a resolution supporting the designation.

The bill designates the “Deputy Sheriff Michael Hartwick Memorial Highway” in Pinellas County. Under the bill, DOT must erect suitable markers for the road designation.

The bill will have an insignificant negative fiscal impact to the State Transportation Trust Fund associated with erecting suitable markers for the designation. The cost can be absorbed within DOT’s existing resources.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2023.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

Transportation Facility Designations

Under current law, the Legislature may designate a transportation facility, such as a bridge, interchange, or portion of a road, for honorary or memorial purposes or to distinguish a particular facility. Legislative designations do not officially change the existing names of the facilities and do not require local governments or private entities to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone-number system listings to account for the designations.¹

Regarding the naming of state buildings and other facilities, state law 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.²

Road Markers

When the Legislature establishes road or bridge designations, the Department of Transportation (DOT) is required to place a marker at each terminus or intersection of the highway segment or bridge designated and may erect other markers it deems appropriate for the designated transportation facility.³ Markers may not be erected until the appropriate city or county commission passes a resolution in support of the particular designation. Additionally, if the designated facility is located in multiple cities or counties, each affected local government must pass a resolution in support of the designation before DOT can install the markers.⁴

Deputy Sheriff Michael Hartwick

Deputy Sheriff Michael Hartwick served with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office for 19 years. On September 22, 2022, Deputy Hartwick was fatally struck by a construction front-end loader truck while working an overnight assignment directing traffic for construction work on I-275.⁵

Effect of the Bill

Under the bill, the portion of I-275 between mile markers 30 and 31 in Pinellas County is designated as "Deputy Sheriff Michael Hartwick Memorial Highway." The bill directs DOT to erect suitable markers.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Designates "Deputy Sheriff Michael Hartwick Memorial Highway"; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.

Section 2: Provides an effective date of July 1, 2023.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

¹ S. 334.071(1), F.S.

² S. 267.062(1), F.S.

³ S. 334.071(2), F.S.

⁴ S. 334.071(3), F.S.

⁵ Officer Down Memorial Page, *Deputy Sheriff Michael Hartwick*, <https://www.odmp.org/officer/26387-deputy-sheriff-michael-hartwick> (last visited Jan. 5, 2023).

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

DOT estimates a cost of \$1,480 per designation for the appropriate markers, which provides for two signs per designation at \$740 per sign.⁶ Therefore, the bill has an estimated negative fiscal impact of \$1,480 to the State Transportation Trust Fund. This cost can be absorbed within existing DOT resources.⁷

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 governments.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

None.

⁶ Email from Amanda Marsh, Legislative Programs Office, Florida Department of Transportation, RE: FDOT Memorial Roadway Designation Sign Estimate (Dec. 28, 2022).

⁷ *Id.*