

# FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## BILL ANALYSIS

*This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.*

**BILL #:** [CS/HB 25](#)

**TITLE:** Transportation Facility Designations

**SPONSOR(S):** Daniels

**COMPANION BILL:** None

**LINKED BILLS:** None

**RELATED BILLS:** None

### Committee References

[Economic Infrastructure](#)

16 Y, 0 N, As CS

[Commerce](#)



## SUMMARY

### Effect of the Bill:

The bill designates transportation facilities in Florida for memorial purposes and directs the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to erect suitable markers for each designation.

### Fiscal or Economic Impact:

The bill will have an insignificant negative impact on state government expenditures.

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## ANALYSIS

### **EFFECT OF THE BILL:**

The bill requires FDOT to erect suitable markers for the following transportation facility designations:

#### **Bernard Wilkes Ribault River Bridge**

The bridge on Moncrief Road West over the Ribault River in Duval County is designated as "Bernard Wilkes Ribault River Bridge." (Section [1](#)).

#### **Dickey Betts Memorial Highway**

That portion of U.S. 41 between North Creek and Blackburn Point Road in Sarasota County is designated as "Dickey Betts Memorial Highway." (Section [2](#)).

### **FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

#### **STATE GOVERNMENT:**

The bill will have an insignificant negative impact on state government expenditures. In 2025, FDOT estimated a cost of \$2,400 per designation for the appropriate markers, which provides for two signs per designation at \$1,200 per sign.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, the bill has an estimated negative fiscal impact of \$4,800 to the State Transportation Fund. This cost can be absorbed within existing FDOT resources.

## RELEVANT INFORMATION

### **SUBJECT OVERVIEW:**

#### **Legislative Designation of Transportation Facilities**

The Legislature may designate a transportation facility, such as a bridge or a portion of a road, for honorary or memorial purposes or to distinguish a particular facility. Legislative designations do not officially change the

<sup>1</sup> Email from Jack Rogers, Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Transportation, RE: Road Designations Review (Feb. 13, 2025).

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existing names of facilities and may not require local governments or private parties to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone number system listing.<sup>2</sup>

Unless specifically provided by law, public facilities such as roads, bridges, and other similar facilities may not be named for any living person.<sup>3</sup>

### **Transportation Facility Markers**

Following a legislative designation, FDOT is required to place markers at the termini or intersections specified for each highway segment or bridge designated and may place other markers it deems as appropriate.<sup>4</sup> Before markers may be erected, the appropriate city or county commission must pass a resolution in support of the particular honorary designation. If the designated bridge or road segment is located in more than one city or county, there must be resolutions supporting the designation from each affected local government before markers may be erected.<sup>5</sup>

### **Bernard Wilkes**

Coach Bernard Wilkes was recognized as one of the most successful high school coaches in Florida's history. He dedicated 30 years of service to the Duval County Public School System, teaching and coaching basketball at Ribault Senior High School. Throughout his career, Coach Wilkes led the basketball team to four state championships, 12 Gateway Conference championships, 21 district titles, and reached the Florida High School Athletic Association Finals 16 times. Coach Wilkes passed away on March 5, 2006.

### **Dickey Betts**

Dickey Betts was a guitarist, vocalist, and co-founder of the legendary Allman Brothers Band, a group that pioneered the southern rock sound. Betts was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a member of the band and received a Grammy Award with the group for Best Rock Performance. Betts was ranked as one of Rolling Stone's 100 Greatest Guitarists of All-Time and was the writer and vocalist of the band's biggest hit, "Ramblin' Man." Betts was a Florida native, born in West Palm Beach, and resided in the Sarasota area for most of his life. Betts passed away on April 18, 2024.

## **BILL HISTORY**

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
<a href="#">Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee</a>	16 Y, 0 N, As CS	1/20/2026	Keating	Dallas
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	Added a designation for a portion of U.S. 41 between North Creek and Blackburn Point Road in Sarasota County as "Dickey Betts Memorial Highway."			
<a href="#">Commerce Committee</a>				

**THIS BILL ANALYSIS HAS BEEN UPDATED TO INCORPORATE ALL OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED ABOVE.**

<sup>2</sup> [S. 334.071\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>3</sup> [S. 267.062\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>4</sup> [S. 334.071\(2\), F.S.](#)

<sup>5</sup> [S. 334.071\(3\), F.S.](#)