

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 109 Transportation Facility Designations

SPONSOR(S): Drake

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 330

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee	12 Y, 0 N	Johnson	Vickers
2) Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee	12 Y, 0 N	Davis	Davis
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 Lieutenant Ewart T. Sconiers Highway in Walton 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 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 that portion of U.S. 90/S.R. 10 between S.R. 285 and N. 9th Street/S.R. 83 N. in Walton County as "Lieutenant Ewart T. Sconiers Highway."

Lieutenant Sconiers was born and raised in DeFuniak Springs, and attended the University of Florida. He was shot down and captured by the Germans on October 21, 1942. He was imprisoned in German-occupied Poland and passed away there on January 24, 1944. In April of 2017, his remains were found and positively identified. Lieutenant Sconiers will be buried in DeFuniak Springs with full military honors on January 27, 2018.¹

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

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 designates Lieutenant Ewart T. Sconiers Highway 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.² Therefore, the bill has an estimated negative fiscal impact 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 <http://www.bringsconiershome.com/home> (Last visited August 29, 2017).

² Email for Florida Department of Transportation, August 28, 2017.

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.