

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: CS/HB 21 Transportation Facility Designations

SPONSOR(S): Transportation & Modals Subcommittee, Sirois

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

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Transportation & Modals Subcommittee	18 Y, 0 N, As CS	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 “Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Bridge” in Brevard County. Under the bill, DOT must erect suitable markers for the 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

Dr. Sally Ride

In 1977, Dr. Sally Ride was one of only six women selected for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) class of 1978. On June 18, 1983, Dr. Ride became the first American woman in space, and at the age of 32, the youngest American in space as one of five crew members aboard the space shuttle *Challenger* STS-7. Dr. Ride returned to space on October 5, 1984, aboard another shuttle mission, the STS-41G, and continued working for NASA until 1987.⁵ Dr. Ride was passionate about improving science and mathematics education and helping young women and girls foster an interest in science. Dr. Ride passed away on July 23, 2012, after a 17-month battle with pancreatic cancer at the age of 61.⁶

Effect of the Bill

Under the bill, upon completion of construction, the new NASA Causeway Bridge on S.R. 405 over the Indian River in Brevard County is designated as "Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Bridge." The bill directs DOT to erect suitable markers for this designation.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Designates "Dr. Sally Ride Memorial Bridge"; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.

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

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 National Women's History Museum, *Sally Ride*, <https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/sally-ride> (last visited Jan. 5, 2023).

⁶ Sally Ride Science at UC San Diego, *Dr. Sally Ride*, <https://sallyridesience.ucsd.edu/about/sallyride/> (last visited Jan. 5, 2023).

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

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.⁷ 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.⁸

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

On January 17, 2023, the Transportation and Modals Subcommittee considered one amendment, which was adopted, and reported the bill favorably as a committee substitute. The amendment clarifies that the

⁷ Email from Amanda Marsh, Legislative Programs Office, Florida Department of Transportation, RE: FDOT Memorial Roadway Designation Sign Estimate (Dec. 28, 2022).

⁸ *Id.*

bridge designation is for the *new* NASA Causeway Bridge currently being constructed, not the existing twin bascule bridges.

The staff analysis has been updated to reflect the committee substitute.