

# 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/CS/HB 987](#)

**TITLE:** Transportation Facility Designations

**SPONSOR(S):** Brannan, Nix

**COMPANION BILL:** [SB 1408](#) (Collins)

**LINKED BILLS:** None

**RELATED BILLS:** None

### Committee References

[Economic Infrastructure](#)

17 Y, 0 N, As CS



[Commerce](#)

25 Y, 0 N, As CS

## SUMMARY

### Effect of the Bill:

The bill designates transportation facilities across the state 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: (Section [1](#)).

#### [Heroes Memorial Overpass](#)

That portion of the overpass on S.R. 100 between S Temple Avenue and E South Street in Bradford County is designated as "Heroes Memorial Overpass."

#### [Sergeant Elio Diaz Memorial Highway](#)

That portion of U.S. 41 between Melbourne Street and Church Street in Charlotte County is designated as "Sergeant Elio Diaz Memorial Highway."

#### [Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office \(PBSO\) Motorman Highway](#)

That portion of Southern Boulevard between 18000 Southern Boulevard (Lion Country Safari Road) and Royal Palm Beach Boulevard in Palm Beach County is designated as "PBSO Motorman Highway."

#### [Staff Sergeant Matthew Sitton Memorial Highway](#)

That portion of S.R. 688/Ulmerton Road between 122nd Avenue N./125th Street and Walsingham Road in Pinellas County is designated as "Staff Sergeant Matthew Sitton Memorial Highway."

#### [Sheriff Gary S. Borders Memorial Highway](#)

That portion of S.R. 19 and County Road 48 in Howey-In-The-Hills within Lake County is designated as "Sheriff Gary S. Borders Memorial Highway."

#### [Master Deputy Bradley Link Memorial Highway](#)

That portion of U.S. 27 within the municipal boundaries of Minneola in Lake County is designated as "Master Deputy Bradley Link Memorial Highway."

#### [Sergeant Karl Strohsal Memorial Highway](#)

**STORAGE NAME:** h0987a.COM

**DATE:** 4/17/2025

That portion of S.R. 400 east of the Central Parkway Bridge and the E. E. Williamson Bridge in the City of Longwood in Seminole County is designated as “Sergeant Karl Strohsal Memorial Highway.”

#### [SPC Daniel J. Agami Bridge](#)

The bridge on S.R. 7 over Sample Road in Broward County is designated as "SPC Daniel J. Agami Bridge."

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2025. (Section [2](#)).

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

#### **STATE GOVERNMENT:**

The bill will have an insignificant negative impact on state government expenditures. FDOT estimates 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 \$19,200 to the State Transportation Trust 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 existing names of facilities and do not require local governments or private parties to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone number system listings.<sup>2</sup>

Unless specifically provided by law, public facilities such as buildings, parks, 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>

#### **Biographical Information**

#### [Heroes Memorial Overpass](#)

The Heroes Memorial Overpass recognizes the bravery, dedication, and sacrifice of military service members, first responders, and other heroes who have served to protect the City of Starke community.

#### [Sergeant Elio Diaz Memorial Highway](#)

On December 15, 2024, Sergeant Elio Diaz was shot and killed during a traffic stop in Charlotte Harbor. Sergeant Diaz had served with the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office for over 11 years.<sup>6</sup>

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

<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.](#)

<sup>6</sup> Officer Down Memorial Page, *Sergeant Elio Diaz*, <https://www.odmp.org/officer/27245-sergeant-elio-diaz> (last visited Apr. 16, 2025).

[Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office \(PBSO\) Motorman Highway](#)

In November 2024, three motor deputies were killed in Palm Beach County after being struck by a car. This designation not only pays tribute to the three motormen, but it also recognizes the role of all first responders who serve the community.

[Staff Sergeant Matthew Sitton Memorial Highway](#)

On August 2, 2012, Staff Sergeant Matthew Sitton was killed in action in Kandahar, Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. A native of Largo, he served with distinction in the United States Army. Throughout his service, he earned numerous commendations, including the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal with knot, National Defense Service Medal, Expert Infantryman Badge, and the Parachutist Badge.

[Sheriff Gary S. Borders Memorial Highway](#)

Sheriff Gary S. Borders was appointed as Lake County sheriff in 2006 and he was later elected in 2008 and 2012. In addition to his law duties, Sheriff Borders served on numerous boards, including the Board of Directors for the Florida Sheriff's Association and the Educational Foundation of Lake County. He received many awards throughout his career, including the Florida DARE Sheriff of the Year and the Lake County Community of Distinction Award. Sheriff Borders retired in 2017 and passed on November 16, 2021.

[Master Deputy Bradley Link Memorial Highway](#)

In April 2024, Master Deputy Sheriff Bradley Link was shot and killed when he and other deputies responded to a disturbance at a home in Eustis. He served with the Lake County Sheriff's Office for four and a half years and had previously served with the Polk County Sheriff's Office for two years. He was also a U.S. Army Reserves veteran.<sup>7</sup>

[Sergeant Karl Strohsal Memorial Highway](#)

In July 2007, Sergeant Karl Strohsal was struck and killed by another vehicle in Volusia County after returning from a plainclothes operation. Sergeant Strohsal served with the Longwood Police Department for 18 years and had previously served with the New York City Police Department for 14 years.<sup>8</sup>

[SPC Daniel J. Agami Bridge](#)

In June 2007, Army Specialist Daniel J. Agami was killed in an explosion in Iraq during operation Iraqi Freedom. A native of South Florida, Agami was known for his strong sense of duty to his country and for taking pride in teaching his fellow soldiers about Judaism. His parents were presented with his Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and Army commendation medal.<sup>9</sup>

BILL HISTORY				
COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
<a href="#">Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee</a>	17 Y, 0 N, As CS	3/12/2025	Keating	Garcia
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	Added transportation facility designations not included in the original bill.			
<a href="#">Commerce Committee</a>	25 Y, 0 N, As CS	4/15/2025	Hamon	Garcia
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	Added three transportation facility designations.			

<sup>7</sup> Officer Down Memorial Page, *Master Deputy Sheriff Bradley Michael Link*, <https://www.odmp.org/officer/27109-master-deputy-sheriff-bradley-michael-link> (last visited Apr. 16, 2025).  
<sup>8</sup> Officer Down Memorial Page, *Sergeant Karl Strohsal*, <https://www.odmp.org/officer/18951-sergeant-karl-strohsal> (last visited Apr. 17, 2025).  
<sup>9</sup> Honor the Fallen, *Army Spc. Daniel J. Agami*, <https://thefallen.militarytimes.com/army-spc-daniel-j-agami/2857944> (last visited Apr. 16, 2025).

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