



Lynda J. Jacobsen

*Bill Analysis*  
Legislative Service Commission

## **S.B. 91**

125th General Assembly  
(As Passed by the Senate)

**Sens. Nein, Coughlin, Schuring, White**

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Prohibits naming any state-funded building, highway, road, or other public work for a person who holds any elective office at the time the naming is proposed or who held an elective office within five years preceding the proposed naming, unless the naming is posthumous.

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### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

#### **Prohibition: in general**

The bill generally prohibits naming any building or other structure, highway or other road, or other public work, in whole or in part, for a person if all of the following apply (sec. 9.05(A)):

(1) The person for whom the public work is to be named holds an elective office at the time of the proposed naming or has held an elective office within five years immediately preceding the proposed naming.

(2) State funds were used, in whole or in part, in the construction of the public work.

(3) The person is alive at the time of the proposed naming.

The prohibition would apply on and after the bill's effective date.

The bill does not prevent either of the following: (1) the naming of a public work for a living person who previously held an elective office, if five years have passed since that person ended service in any elective office and (2) the posthumous naming of a public work for a person who has held an elective office regardless of the amount of time that has passed since the person served in an elective office before death. (Sec. 9.05(B).)

### Conforming amendments

Currently, four specific provisions of law establish procedures for naming state and local highways; in each of those four provisions, the bill makes the current naming procedures subject to its prohibition against naming a highway for a living person who holds any elective office at the time the naming is proposed or who held an elective office within five years preceding the proposed naming. The four provisions are as follows:

(1) The Director of Transportation's official assigning to a state highway of a distinctive name commemorative of a historical event or person, or a commonly accepted name, upon petition of the boards of county commissioners of the counties traversed by a highway or of the citizens of those counties (sec. 5511.01);

(2) The Director of Transportation's official assigning to the entire length of a state highway within a county a distinctive name commemorative of a historical event or person, or a commonly accepted name, upon request of the affected local authorities and the Director's approval (sec. 5511.09);

(3) A board of county commissioners changing the name of a county or township road for good cause on its own motion or on petition by a person owning a lot in the unincorporated area of the county (sec. 5541.04);

(4) The duty of the county engineer to name and number all public roads in the engineer's county under the direction and supervision of the Director of Transportation (sec. 5543.04). (See **COMMENT**.)

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### **COMMENT**

The General Assembly also names highways in Chapter 5533. of the Revised Code.

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### **HISTORY**

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	05-20-03	pp. 351-352
Reported, S. Highways & Transportation	06-11-03	p. 447
Passed Senate (25-7)	06-11-03	p. 452

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