



S.B. 91*

125th General Assembly
(As Reported by S. Highways and Transportation)

Sens. Nein, Coughlin

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.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

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:

- (1) The person for whom the building, highway, or other 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 building, highway, or other 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. (Sec. 9.05(A).)

The bill specifically provides that it does not prevent either of the following: (1) the naming of a building, highway, or other 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

* *This analysis was prepared before the report of the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee appeared in the Senate Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.*

naming of a building, highway, or other 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).)

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) Naming a state highway a distinctive name commemorative of a historical event or person, or a commonly accepted name, by the Director of Transportation, upon petition of the boards of the counties traversed by a highway or of the citizens of those counties (sec. 5511.01);

(2) Naming 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 approval of the Director of Transportation (sec. 5511.09);

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

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

COMMENT

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

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	05-20-03	pp. 351-352
Reported, S. Highways & Transportation	---	---

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