



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [H.B. 287 of the 130th G.A.](#) **Date:** December 5, 2013
Status: As Reported by House Military and Veterans Affairs **Sponsor:** Reps. Letson and O'Brien

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Designates the Persian Gulf Veterans Bridge and the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Bridge

State Fiscal Highlights

- The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) could incur costs of approximately \$350 to \$400 per sign, including materials and labor, to install appropriate markers at the two bridges designated in the bill. ODOT could be reimbursed by the city of Niles for some or all of these costs.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- The city of Niles may incur a nominal fee if it requests ODOT to install signs for the bridges named in the bill.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill designates two bridges in the city of Niles in honor of veterans of the Persian Gulf War and the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts, respectively. Specifically, the bill names the bridge carrying state routes 46 and 169 over Mosquito Creek as the Persian Gulf Veterans Bridge, and the bridge carrying state route 46 over the Mahoning River as the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Bridge. When a highway or bridge is named by the General Assembly, the policy of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is first to install a memorial marker in a rest area, scenic overlook, recreational area, or other appropriate location. If this is not practical, a marker is installed along the highway instead. Two markers are usually installed, one in each direction at each location.

Both bridges designated in the bill are located within the city of Niles. In cases where memorial highways designated by the General Assembly under Chapter 5533. of the Revised Code fall on U.S. or state routes within the boundaries of a municipal corporation, ODOT's Traffic Engineering Manual directs that signs are not to be installed by ODOT, but that ODOT may furnish signs to the municipality for a commensurate fee. According to ODOT, the costs of installing signs for memorial highways are approximately \$350 to \$400 per sign, including materials and labor. Once a set of signs is installed, typically there are no maintenance costs unless the signs are damaged. Signs are usually in need of replacement every 12 to 15 years.