Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: Am. S.B. 209 of the 130th G.A. **Date**: February 28, 2014

Status: As Passed by the House **Sponsor**: Sen. Manning

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Designates two new memorial highways

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 on the highways designated in the bill. ODOT could be reimbursed by the cities of Oberlin and Amherst for some or all the costs of the signs on the portion of State Route 58 designated as the Sgt. Louis Torres Memorial Highway.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- The cities of Oberlin and Amherst could incur nominal costs if they request ODOT to install signs for the Sgt. Louis Torres Memorial Highway.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill designates two new memorial highways. The first is a stretch of State Route 58 in Lorain County, running between State Route 511 in the city of Oberlin and Cleveland Avenue/North Ridge Road in the city of Amherst, which the bill designates as the Sgt. Louis Torres Memorial Highway. The second is a portion if I-270 in Franklin County, extending between West Broad Street and U.S. Route 62, which the bill designates as the Army Specialist Nicholaus E. Zimmer Memorial Highway. 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.

The road the bill designates as the Sgt. Louis Torres Memorial Highway extends in a northerly direction between endpoints in the cities of Oberlin and Amherst. 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 indicates 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. For the Army Specialist Nicholaus E. Zimmer Memorial Highway, there will be no local costs as ODOT is responsible for the costs of all signs installed on interstate highways.

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