



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Jason Phillips

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [Sub. S.B. 187 of the 129th G.A.](#) **Date:** June 22, 2011
Status: As Reported by Senate Highways & Transportation **Sponsor:** Sen. Grendell

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Designates two memorial highways and renames a memorial highway

State Fiscal Highlights

- The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will incur minimal costs to manufacture and install suitable markers for the designated portion of United States Route 322 in Geauga County and the designated portion of Interstate Route 71 in Franklin County. There may also be maintenance costs for repairs if the signs are damaged.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill designates a portion of United States Route 322 in Geauga County as the "Chief Warrant Officer Christopher R. Thibodeau Memorial Highway" and designates a portion of Interstate Route 71 in Franklin County as the "Deputy Marty Martin Memorial Highway." Finally, the bill renames the "Heath Warner Memorial Highway" the "U.S.M.C. Pvt. Heath Warner Memorial Highway." This last memorial highway was designated in Am. Sub. H.B. 65 of the 129th General Assembly, which was recently passed by the General Assembly, but has not yet taken effect. The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) would incur minimal costs to install suitable signs along both of the newly designated portions of road based on guidance in Ohio's Traffic Engineering Manual (TEM).

Nearly all of the designated portion of United States Route 322 in Geauga County is functionally classified as rural. The designated route does not pass through any municipal corporations. The designated portion of Interstate Route 71 falls within the municipal corporation limits of Grove City. The TEM directs the appropriate ODOT district to furnish and install signs for memorial highways on the rural state highway system or for memorial highways on interstate highways within municipal corporation limits that are designated by the legislature under Chapter 5533. of the Revised Code.

Current costs to manufacture, install, and maintain a single set of flatsheet signs at one location are estimated to be about \$600, depending on the size of the sign(s), equipment and materials needed to install them, and the frequency of maintenance. Once a set of signs is installed, typically there are no maintenance costs unless the signs are knocked down or damaged. Signs are usually in need of replacement every 12 to 15 years. When a highway is designated as a memorial, the Department's policy is to first 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.