

CCS SCS HB 91 -- TRANSPORTATION

This bill establishes David's Law and the Heroes Way Interstate Interchange Designation Program and designates several memorial highways and bridges.

DRUNK DRIVING VICTIM MEMORIAL SIGN PROGRAM (Section 227.295, RSMo)

The bill requires the Department of Transportation to establish a drunk driving risk reduction awareness program to be known as "David's Law," including a drunk driving victim memorial sign program. The department must adopt, by rules and regulations, program guidelines for the application for and placement of signs including, but not limited to, the sign application and qualification process, the procedure for the dedication of signs, and procedures for the replacement or restoration of any signs that are damaged or stolen.

Any person may apply to the department to sponsor a drunk driving victim memorial sign in memory of an immediate family member who died as a result of a motor vehicle accident caused by a person who was shown to have been operating a motor vehicle in violation of an alcohol-related traffic law at the time of the accident. A person who is not a member of the victim's immediate family may also make a request if he or she submits the written consent of a member of the victim's immediate family. The department will charge the sponsoring party a fee to cover the department's cost in designing, constructing, erecting, and maintaining the sign and its cost in administering the program. Signs will remain in place for 10 years and may be renewed for another 10 years after payment of the appropriate maintenance fees.

The signs developed by the department will feature the words "Drunk Driving Victim!", the initials of the deceased victim, the month and year in which the victim was killed, and the phrase "Think About It!".

No person, other than a department employee or designee, may erect a drunk driving victim memorial sign.

HEROES WAY INTERSTATE INTERCHANGE DESIGNATION PROGRAM (Section 227.297)

The Heroes Way Interstate Interchange Designation Program is established to honor fallen Missouri heroes who have been killed in action while in active military duty with the armed forces in Afghanistan or Iraq on or after September 11, 2001, and who were residents of this state at the time of their death.

Any person related by marriage, adoption, or consanguinity within the second degree to the military member who was killed may apply to the Department of Transportation for a designation by submitting:

(1) An application in a form prescribed by the department director describing the interstate interchange for which the designation is sought and the proposed name of the interchange. The application must include the name of at least one current member of the General Assembly who will sponsor the designation;

(2) Proof that the family member was a member of the United States armed forces and was killed in action while performing active military duty with the United States armed forces in Afghanistan or Iraq on or after September 11, 2001, and a signed form certifying that the applicant is related to the member; and

(3) A fee to be determined by the Highways and Transportation Commission to cover, but not exceed, the costs of constructing and maintaining the proposed interstate interchange signs.

The department must submit for approval all applications for designations to the Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight. If satisfied with the application and all its contents, the joint committee must approve the application. The joint committee must notify the department upon the approval or denial of an application for a designation. If the memorial designation request is not approved by the joint committee, 97% of the application fee must be refunded to the applicant.

Two signs will be erected for each interstate interchange designation. No interstate interchange may be named or designated after more than one individual, and a person will only be eligible for one designation.

The highway signs erected for any designation under the program must be erected and maintained for a 20-year period. After that period, the signs will be subject to removal by the department and the interstate interchange may be designated to honor another person. An existing designation processed under the program may be retained for additional 20-year increments if, at least one year before the designation's expiration, an application to the department is made to retain the designation along with the required documents and all applicable required fees.

MEMORIAL HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES (Sections 227.310, 227.320, 227.368, 227.402, and 227.407)

The bill designates the following street, memorial highways, and bridges:

(1) The portion of State Highway 100 located in Franklin County from its intersection with State Highway 47 to the highway's connection with Interstate 44 as the "Veterans Memorial Highway";

(2) The portion of the state highway system which was designated as State Highway 47 as of January 1, 2009, within the city limits of the City of Washington as "Franklin Street";

(3) The bridge over Interstate 44 on Business Loop 44 at Exit 127 in Laclede County as the "Specialist James M. Finley Memorial Bridge";

(4) The bridge over the Gasconade River on State Highway 17 in Pulaski County as the "WWII Okinawa Veterans Memorial Bridge";
and

(5) The portion of Interstate 435 located in Jackson County from mile marker 63.4 to mile marker 54.2 as the "Lamar Hunt Memorial Highway."