

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 879

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE COOKSON.

1798H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 227, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to famous Missourian highway designations.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 227, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 227.550, to read as follows:

**227.550. 1. An organization or person that seeks a highway designation on the state
2 highway system to honor a famous Missourian shall petition the department of
3 transportation by submitting the following:**

4 **(1) An application in a form prescribed by the director of the department of
5 transportation, describing the not more than two-mile segment of highway for which
6 designation is sought and the proposed name of the relevant portion of highway. The
7 application shall include the name of at least one current member of the general assembly
8 who will sponsor the highway designation. The application may contain written testimony
9 for support of highway designation;**

10 **(2) A list of at least one hundred signatures of individuals who support the naming
11 of the highway; and**

12 **(3) A fee to be determined by the highways and transportation commission to cover
13 the costs of constructing and maintaining the proposed signs. The fee shall not exceed the
14 cost of constructing and maintaining each sign.**

15 **2. In order to qualify as a famous Missourian, a person shall:**

16 **(1) Be at least fifty years of age;**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 **(2) Be nationally or internationally recognized for their accomplishments including,**
18 **but not limited to, entertainers, professional athletes, scholars, authors, and scientists, but**
19 **shall not be a living politician; and**

20 **(3) Have been born in Missouri or spent the majority of their childhood in Missouri**
21 **or spent the majority of their life in Missouri.**

22 **3. All moneys received by the department of transportation for the construction**
23 **and maintenance of highway signs on the state highway system shall be deposited in the**
24 **state treasury to the credit of the state road fund.**

25 **4. The documents and fees required under this section shall be submitted to the**
26 **department of transportation no later than November first prior to the next regular session**
27 **of the general assembly to be approved or denied by the joint committee on transportation**
28 **oversight during such legislative session.**

29 **5. The department of transportation shall give notice of any proposed highway**
30 **designation on the state highway system in a manner reasonably calculated to advise the**
31 **public of such proposal. Reasonable notice shall include posting the proposal for the**
32 **designation on the department's official public website, and making available copies of the**
33 **sign designation application to any representative of the news media or public upon**
34 **request and posting the application on a bulletin board or other prominent public place**
35 **which is easily accessible to the public and clearly designated for that purpose at the**
36 **principal office.**

37 **6. If the highway designation requested by the organization is not approved by the**
38 **joint committee on transportation oversight, ninety-seven percent of the application fee**
39 **shall be refunded to the requesting organization or person.**

40 **7. Two highway signs shall be erected for each highway designation on the state**
41 **highway system processed under this section. If a named section of a highway crosses two**
42 **or more county lines, consideration shall be given by the department of transportation to**
43 **allow additional signage at the county lines or major intersections.**

44 **8. No portion of a highway on the state highway system may be named or**
45 **designated after more than one event, place, organization, or person under this chapter.**
46 **Each person shall only be eligible for one highway designation.**

47 **9. Any highway signs erected for a highway designation on the state highway**
48 **system under the provisions of this section shall be erected and maintained for a**
49 **twenty-year period. After such period, the signs shall be subject to removal by the**
50 **department of transportation and the highway may be designated to honor events, places,**
51 **organizations, or persons other than the current designee. An existing highway designation**
52 **processed under the provisions of this section may be retained for additional twenty-year**

53 **increments if an application to the department of transportation to retain the designation**
54 **is submitted no earlier than one year prior to the designation's expiration date and no later**
55 **than one year after the designation's expiration date, along with the required documents**
56 **and all applicable fees required under this section.**

57 **10. The provisions of this section shall apply to highway designations sought after**
58 **August 28, 2017.**

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