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H.B. 276
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Ghanbari

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SUMMARY

- Designates 28 highways and 4 bridges.
- Changes the location of three memorial highways.
- Changes the name of one memorial highway to reflect a posthumous promotion.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

New memorial highways and bridges

The bill designates the following highways and bridges. It authorizes the Director of Transportation to erect suitable markers along the highways and bridges.

Designated Name	Highway/Bridge	Biographical Information
"SFC Charles E. Carpenter Memorial Highway" ¹	The portion of State Route (SR) 122, running in an easterly and westerly direction, between Wicoff Street (in Butler County) and Towne Boulevard (in Warren County).	SFC Charles E. Carpenter was killed by hostile small-arms fire on February 24, 1969, during the Vietnam War. It was SFC Carpenter's third tour of duty.

¹ R.C. 5534.014.

Designated Name	Highway/Bridge	Biographical Information
"Patrolman Mathew Mazany Memorial Highway" ²	The eastbound and westbound lanes of SR 2, between the intersection of SR 306 and the intersection of SR 615, in Lake County.	Patrolman Mathew Mazany of the Mentor Police Department was struck and killed by a hit-and-run driver while assisting another officer during a traffic stop on State Route 2 in June 2018. He had served the Mentor Police Department for 14 years.
"Patrolman James A. Fredericka Memorial Highway" ³	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 7, between SR 82 and SR 305, in Trumbull County.	Patrolman James A. Fredericka was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII and a state highway patrolman. He passed away on May 8, 1953, from injuries sustained eight days earlier when he lost control of his patrol car on a wet roadway and struck a tree while he was responding to a traffic accident.
"PFC William Boggs Memorial Highway" ⁴	The northbound and southbound lanes of U.S. Route (USR) 62, between Staunton-Sugar Grove Road and Greenfield Sabina Road, in Fayette County.	PFC William Boggs was killed in action on September 26, 1950, during the Korean War while trying to rescue fellow wounded soldiers and was posthumously awarded the silver star.
"RDML Alene Duerk Memorial Highway" ⁵	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 108, through all of Henry County.	RDML Alene Duerk was the first woman to attain the rank of rear admiral in the Navy. She enlisted in the Navy Nurse Corps in 1945, in the midst of WWII, and rose the ranks until her promotion to rear admiral in 1972. She retired from the Navy in 1975 and passed away at home on July 21, 2018.

² R.C. 5534.407.

³ R.C. 5534.408.

⁴ R.C. 5534.60.

⁵ R.C. 5534.601.

Designated Name	Highway/Bridge	Biographical Information
"SFC Charles Gregory Huston Memorial Highway" ⁶	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 66, between Houston Road and Roeth Road, in Shelby County.	SFC Charles Gregory "Greg" Huston served in the U.S. Army Special Forces as part of a special task force engaged in highly classified operations during the Vietnam War. On March 28, 1968, SFC Huston's group came under heavy enemy fire that prevented SFC Huston and two other American soldiers from boarding an evacuation helicopter. On April 1, a search and rescue team was not able to locate any of the three Americans. SFC Huston was declared missing in action until January 26, 1977, when he was officially declared to be dead. He was promoted to Staff Sergeant while listed as MIA and has a memorial cemetery marker at the Courts of the Missing at the Honolulu Memorial.
"Justice Robert Duncan Memorial Highway" ⁷	The eastbound lanes of I-70, between the intersections I-71 and the James Road exit, in Franklin County.	Justice Robert Duncan was the first African-American elected to judicial office in Franklin County, Ohio, the first to serve on the Ohio Supreme Court, the first to win a seat in a statewide Ohio election, the first to serve on the U.S. Court of Military Appeals, and the first appointed to the federal bench in Ohio.
"SFC John E. Conger, Jr. Memorial Highway" ⁸	The eastbound and westbound lanes of SR 63, between the intersections of SR 741 and Neil Armstrong Way, in Warren County.	SFC John E. Conger, Jr. was wounded by enemy fire on January 27, 1969, during a search and destroy mission in South Vietnam during the Vietnam War. Attempts to recover the wounded during the attack were unsuccessful. On October 13, 1969, the remains of the individuals wounded and missing with SFC Conger were recovered, but his remains were never found. He was considered MIA until July 31, 1978, when he was officially declared to be dead. He was

⁶ R.C. 5534.602.

⁷ R.C. 5534.79.

⁸ R.C. 5534.807.

Designated Name	Highway/Bridge	Biographical Information
		posthumously promoted to SFC and has a memorial cemetery marker in Arlington National Cemetery.
"SGT Alex Drabik Memorial Highway" ⁹	The northbound and southbound lanes of I-475, between Hill Avenue and SR 2, in Lucas County.	In 1945, SGT Alex Drabik was the first Allied soldier to cross the Rhine River during World War II. He led the charge across the Remagen Bridge under heavy fire from German forces and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his bravery.
"Col. Donald Blakeslee Memorial Bridge" ¹⁰	The bridge spanning Grand River that is part of Fairport Road and a primary entrance and exit to Fairport Harbor, in Lake County.	Col. Donald Blakeslee flew fighter aircraft during World War II, and fought in the Korean War. He was honored with the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, and Air Medal.
"PFC George Dennis McClelland Memorial Highway" ¹¹	The portion of SR 152, running in a northerly and southerly direction, between County Road (CR) 56 and Township Road (TR) 249, in Jefferson County.	PFC George Dennis McClelland served with the U.S. Marines Corps during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on June 23, 1969.
"PFC M. Preston Wheeler Memorial Highway" ¹²	The eastbound and westbound lanes of SR 125, between mile marker 4 and mile marker 5, in Brown County.	PFC M. Preston Wheeler served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on August 12, 1969.
"Master Chief Special Warfare Operator (SEAL) Edward C. Byers, Jr. Medal of Honor Recipient Highway" ¹³	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 65, between the intersection of SR 64 and the intersection of the western border of Wood County, in Wood County.	Master Chief Special Warfare Operator (SEAL) Edward C. Byers, Jr. received the Medal of Honor on February 29, 2016, for his part in rescuing Dr. Dilip Joseph, an American citizen, in Afghanistan in December of 2012, while serving during Operation Enduring Freedom.

⁹ R.C. 5534.812.

¹⁰ R.C. 5534.814.

¹¹ R.C. 5534.818.

¹² R.C. 5534.823.

¹³ R.C. 5534.824.

Designated Name	Highway/Bridge	Biographical Information
"SGT Arthur A. Mora, Jr. Memorial Highway" ¹⁴	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 25, between the intersection of USR 20 and the intersection of USR 23, in Wood County.	SGT Arthur A. Mora, Jr. was killed in action on October 19, 2005, when his vehicle was struck by enemy indirect fire during patrol operations, while serving in the U.S. Army during Operation Iraqi Freedom.
"Charles C. Nichols Memorial Highway" ¹⁵	The eastbound and westbound lanes of USR 36 between the western border of Coshocton County and SR 79, in Coshocton County.	Post 394 for the Grand Army of the Republic, located in Coshocton, Ohio, is named for Charles C. Nichols. The Grand Army of the Republic was a national association of Union Civil War veterans that was founded in 1866.
"PFC Ronald J. Puskarcik Memorial Highway" ¹⁶	The eastbound and westbound lanes of SR 422, between the intersection of SR 616 and the intersection with the border of Pennsylvania, in Mahoning County.	PFC Ronald J. Puskarcik served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on July 18, 1968.
"Cpl. Fredrick Wayne Miller Memorial Highway" ¹⁷	The eastbound and westbound lanes of SR 39, between USR 62 (near Berlin, Ohio) and Joet Road, in Holmes County.	Cpl. Fredrick Wayne Miller served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on April 21, 1966.
"Cpl. Andrew D. Brownfield Memorial Highway" ¹⁸	The eastbound and westbound lanes of SR 261, between Home Avenue and North Main Street, in Akron, Ohio in Summit County.	Cpl. Andrew D. Brownfield was killed in a mortar attack on March 18, 2004, while serving in the U.S. Marines Corps during Operation Iraqi Freedom.
"LCpl David E. Morton Memorial Highway" ¹⁹	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 72, between Wilmington Road and USR 35, in Greene County.	LCpl David E. Morton served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on August 2, 1968.

¹⁴ R.C. 5534.825.

¹⁵ R.C. 5534.826.

¹⁶ R.C. 5534.827.

¹⁷ R.C. 5534.829.

¹⁸ R.C. 5534.833.

¹⁹ R.C. 5534.834.

Designated Name	Highway/Bridge	Biographical Information
"SGT Meredith L. Barnett Memorial Highway" ²⁰	The eastbound and westbound lanes of SR 550, between Barnett Ridge Road and Stone Quarry Road, in Washington County.	SGT Meredith L. Barnett served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was killed in action on November 6, 1970, while protecting a fellow Marine, and was posthumously awarded the Silver Star.
"Lance Corporal James Sprowl Memorial Highway" ²¹	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 99, between the intersection of CR 64 and the intersection of CR 119, in Huron County.	Lance Corporal James Sprowl served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on March 18, 1968.
"CWO3 James E. Groves III Memorial Highway" ²²	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 48, between the intersection of East Stroop Road and East Dorothy Lane, in Kettering, Ohio in Montgomery County.	Army Chief Warrant Officer 3 James E. Groves III died on March 16, 2013, while serving during Operation Enduring Freedom, in a helicopter crash in Kandahar, Afghanistan.
"SGT Michael Keith Hamner Memorial Highway" ²³	The northbound and southbound lanes of USR 23, between mile marker 6 and mile marker 8, in Ross County.	SGT Michael Keith Hamner served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on September 19, 1968.
"LTC Kevin Sonnenberg Memorial Highway" ²⁴	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 65, between County Road H and SR 110, in Henry County.	LTC Kevin Sonnenberg died on June 14, 2007, while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom, when his jet crashed five miles north of Balad Air Base, Iraq.
"Canfield Armed Forces Bridge" ²⁵	The bridge spanning SR 11 along USR 224, located in Canfield Township, in Mahoning County.	

²⁰ R.C. 5534.871.

²¹ R.C. 5534.881.

²² R.C. 5534.882.

²³ R.C. 5534.883.

²⁴ R.C. 5534.884.

²⁵ R.C. 5534.885.

Designated Name	Highway/Bridge	Biographical Information
"Canfield First Responders Bridge" ²⁶	The bridge spanning I-76 along Herbert Road, located in Canfield Township, in Mahoning County.	
"Lewis John Speece, Jr. Memorial Bridge" ²⁷	The bridge spanning I-76 along SR 46, located in Canfield Township, in Mahoning County.	Lewis John Speece, Jr. was a World War II Marine Corps veteran and the founder and president of the War Vet Museum in Canfield. He died at home, surrounded by his family, on February 6, 2015.
"SGT Theodore Ward Memorial Highway" ²⁸	The eastbound and westbound lanes of USR 6, between Frailey Road and Hahn Road, in Erie County.	SGT Theodore Ward served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on May 8, 1969.
"Catawba Island Township Veterans Memorial Highway" ²⁹	The portion of the road known as SR 53, commencing at the intersection of that route and Water Street and proceeding in a southerly direction to the Catawba Island Township line, in Ottawa County.	Subject to approval by the Director in relation to the signage and placement, the bill authorizes the Catawba Island Township Board of Trustees to erect auxiliary markers displaying the following names on a rotating basis (and any other name of a U.S. military veteran approved by the Board): Private First Class William E. Galloway, and SP4 James M. Davenport.
"SGT David S. Harris Memorial Highway" ³⁰	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 4, between the intersection of Owens Road West and the intersection of Somerlot Hoffman Road West, in Marion County.	SGT David S. Harris served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on March 24, 1969.

²⁶ R.C. 5534.886.

²⁷ R.C. 5534.887.

²⁸ R.C. 5534.888.

²⁹ R.C. 5534.89.

³⁰ R.C. 5534.898.

Designated Name	Highway/Bridge	Biographical Information
"James H. Hough Memorial Highway" ³¹	The southbound lane of I-71, commencing at mile marker 102 and continuing to mile marker 100, in Franklin County.	James H. Hough was an employee with the Ohio Department of Transportation who was struck and killed by a car on September 16, 1980, while he was working on the portion of highway where I-71 meets I-270.
"Officer M. Scott Moyer Memorial Highway" ³²	The eastbound and westbound lanes of USR 22, between SR 188 and SR 37, in Fairfield County.	Officer M. Scott Moyer passed away on May 26, 2017, as a result of contracting an infectious disease while extracting glass from an injured man's foot who had previously tried to flee during a traffic stop. He had served the Lancaster Police Department for 18 years.

Changes to existing memorial highways

The bill changes the location of three existing memorial highways and changes the name of an existing memorial highway. The location changes are reflected in the following table:

Designated Name	Original Location	New Location
"Army Staff Sgt. Dennis J. Hansen Memorial Highway" ³³	The northbound and southbound lanes of USR 33, between McCalla Road and Township Road (TR) 99, in Logan County.	The eastbound and westbound lanes of USR 33, between TR 94 and TR 221, in Logan County.
"Army National Guard Sgt. Jeremy M. Hodge Memorial Highway" ³⁴	The northbound and southbound lanes of USR 33, between TR 99 and County Road 130, in Logan County.	The northbound and southbound lanes of USR 68, between TR 37 and TR 103, in Logan County.

³¹ R.C. 5534.91.

³² R.C. 5534.916.

³³ R.C. 5534.893.

³⁴ R.C. 5534.894.

Designated Name	Original Location	New Location
"Marine Gunnery Sgt. David S. Spicer Memorial Highway" ³⁵	The northbound and southbound lanes of USR 33, between East Sandusky Avenue and County Road 5, in Logan County.	The eastbound and westbound lanes of USR 33, between SR 540 and SR 292, in Logan County.

Additionally, the bill changes the name of "Marine PFC Jacob Spann Memorial Highway" to "Marine LCpl Jacob Spann Memorial Highway" to reflect his posthumous promotion.³⁶

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	06-05-19
Reported, H. Transportation and Public Safety	06-11-19
Passed House (93-0)	06-20-19
Reported, S. Transportation, Commerce and Workforce	11-06-19

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³⁵ R.C. 5534.895.

³⁶ R.C. 5534.817.