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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 616  
133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

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**Version:** As Passed by the House

**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Miranda and Denson

Margaret E. Marcy, Attorney

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

The bill designates the following highways, bridges, path, and overpass. It also authorizes the Director of Transportation to erect suitable markers along each designated route indicating its name:

Designated Name	Designated Route	Biographical Information
"Officer Kaia L. Grant Memorial Highway" <sup>1</sup>	The eastbound and westbound lanes of I-275, between Winton Road and I-75, in Hamilton County.	Officer Kaia L. Grant was killed in the line of duty on March 21, 2020, when she was intentionally struck by the vehicle of the person she was pursuing. She served with the Springdale Police Department for eight years.
"Sergeant Frederick A. Raby Highway" <sup>2</sup>	The eastbound and westbound lanes of I-90, between mile marker 69 and mile marker 71, in Wood County.	Sergeant Frederick A. Raby was a state highway patrol officer who was struck by a motor vehicle while conducting a routine traffic stop on September 1, 1990. The force of the strike left Sergeant Raby critically injured with traumatic head and body injuries, from which he has never fully recovered.
"Deputy Sheriff Bill Bender and Trooper"	The eastbound and westbound lanes of State Route (SR) 309,	Deputy Sheriff Bill Bender was killed on July 2, 1973, in an automobile accident

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 5534.415.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 5534.417.

Designated Name	Designated Route	Biographical Information
Randy Bender Memorial Highway <sup>3</sup>	between Marion-Williamsport Road West and Holland Road, in Marion County.	while he was en route to set up a roadblock (because of an escape from a nearby jail). His son, Trooper Randy Bender, was also killed in the line of duty. Trooper Bender died on November 20, 1982, after succumbing to the injuries he sustained from being struck by a tractor trailer while he was directing traffic in a construction zone.
"Patrolman David L. Sterner Memorial Overpass" <sup>4</sup>	The overpass spanning SR 15 on SR 37, in Hancock County.	Patrolman David L. Sterner was killed on February 25, 1973, in an automobile accident near the approximate location of the dedicated overpass. While he was in pursuit of a vehicle, another vehicle pulled in front of him and, in attempting to avoid a collision, he struck a culvert.
"State Representative Don Manning Memorial Highway" <sup>5</sup>	The portion of SR 170, running in a northwesterly and southeasterly direction, between East Western Reserve Road and Dobbins Road, in Mahoning County.	State Representative Don Manning was serving his first term as the State Representative of Ohio's 59 <sup>th</sup> District when he died of an apparent heart attack on March 20, 2020.
"Robert E. Turney Memorial Highway" <sup>6</sup>	The portion of U.S. Route 36, between County Road (CR) 62 and CR 416, in Tuscarawas County.	Robert E. Turney served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was awarded the Silver Star for his actions during the North Africa campaign in 1943, where he remained with a wounded soldier, even though remaining resulted in both being captured. Remarkably, they were released after a few days. After returning home after the war, he worked for the Ohio Department of Transportation from 1945 to 1978, and passed away on October 15, 1989.

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 5534.418.

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 5534.421.

<sup>5</sup> R.C. 5534.511.

<sup>6</sup> R.C. 5534.54.

Designated Name	Designated Route	Biographical Information
"Adams County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway" <sup>7</sup>	The eastbound and westbound lanes of U.S. Route 52 across the entire southern portion of Adams County.	
"Purple Heart Trail of Defiance County" <sup>8</sup>	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 66, in Defiance County.	The Purple Heart medal is presented to military service members who have been wounded or killed as a result of enemy action while serving in the U.S. military. It originated from the Badge of Military Merit, created by President George Washington in 1782, and was revived with its modern-day look and name by Army General Douglas MacArthur in 1932.
"Purple Heart Bridge" <sup>9</sup>	The bridge on SR 66, spanning the Maumee River and located in Defiance, Ohio, in Defiance County.	
"CPL Benjamin C. Dillon Memorial Highway" <sup>10</sup>	The eastbound and westbound lanes of I-76, between mile marker 44 and mile marker 45, in Portage County.	CPL Benjamin C. Dillon was killed in action on October 7, 2007, while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom.
"SGT Richard E. Wagner Memorial Highway" <sup>11</sup>	The portion of the road known as SR 743, running in a northerly and southerly direction, between the intersection of SR 222 and the location where the route spans Big Indian Creek, in Clermont County.	SGT Richard E. Wagner served with the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on February 12, 1968.

<sup>7</sup> R.C. 5534.819.

<sup>8</sup> R.C. 5534.821(A).

<sup>9</sup> R.C. 5534.821(B).

<sup>10</sup> R.C. 5534.828.

<sup>11</sup> R.C. 5534.835.

Designated Name	Designated Route	Biographical Information
"Putnam County Veterans Memorial Highway" <sup>12</sup>	The eastbound and westbound lanes of U.S. Route 224, between the eastern and western borders of Putnam County.	
"Lake Township Veterans Memorial Highway" <sup>13</sup>	The eastbound and westbound lanes of SR 795, between Tracy Road and North Fostoria Road, in Lake Township, in Wood County.	
"SGT Joseph P. Collette Memorial Highway" <sup>14</sup>	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 158, between Ginder Road Northwest and Carroll Eastern Road Northwest, in Fairfield County.	SGT Joseph P. Collette served in the U.S. Army and was killed in action on March 22, 2019, in Kunduz province, Afghanistan while serving during Operation Freedom's Sentinel.
"U.S. Army Specialist Christian D. Ward Memorial Highway" <sup>15</sup>	The portion of the road known as SR 60, running in a northwesterly and southeasterly direction, between CR 121 and CR 87, in Washington County.	U.S. Army Specialist Christian D. Ward was stationed at Ft. Carson in Colorado when he died on June 28, 2019, from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. He served in the Army for nearly four years prior to his death and deployed to Romania and Bulgaria during his service.
"PFC Steven D. Smith Memorial Highway" <sup>16</sup>	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 13, between the northern border of Bellville and the southern border of Mansfield, in Richland County.	PFC Steven D. Smith served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was killed in action on April 15, 1968.

<sup>12</sup> R.C. 5534.836.

<sup>13</sup> R.C. 5534.837.

<sup>14</sup> R.C. 5534.838.

<sup>15</sup> R.C. 5534.872.

<sup>16</sup> R.C. 5534.899.

Designated Name	Designated Route	Biographical Information
"Steven Lowell Cook Memorial Highway" <sup>17</sup>	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 800, between Ross Kennon Road and Shannon Road, in Belmont County.	Steven Lowell Cook was a Barnesville construction worker who was struck and killed by a driver on September 30, 2017, while working in a construction zone on I-70. He previously worked for R&F Coal Company and R&R Trucking.
"William 'Bill' Burgett Memorial Highway" <sup>18</sup>	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 13, between the intersection of Lexington Road and Beckley Road, in Knox County.	William "Bill" Burgett founded Kokosing Construction Company and was president of the Ohio Contractors Association and the National Utility Contractors Association. He died on November 26, 2015.
"Lester and Mary Oeder Memorial Highway" <sup>19</sup>	The eastbound and westbound lanes of U.S. Route 22, between Stubbs Mill Road and Zoar Road, in Warren County.	Lester Oeder was a well-known local businessman from Morrow, Ohio (died on December 28, 2010) and Mary Oeder was his wife for over 77 years (died on March 19, 2015). They both died peacefully at home.
"Clarence 'Sonny' Smith, Jr. Highway" <sup>20</sup>	The northbound and southbound lanes of SR 7, between Washington Boulevard and Western Reserve Road, in Mahoning County.	Clarence "Sonny" Smith, Jr. is a prominent business man in the Youngstown, Ohio area who led Diamond Steel Construction Company, Compco Industries and its affiliates, and Adamas Gems & Jewelry. He has also been active in many other companies and philanthropic causes, and donated much of the family's rock and gemstone collection to the Youngstown State Geology Department to form the Clarence R. Smith Mineral Museum in the atrium of Moser Hall.

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<sup>17</sup> R.C. 5534.912.

<sup>18</sup> R.C. 5534.914.

<sup>19</sup> R.C. 5534.915.

<sup>20</sup> R.C. 5534.921.

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-06-20
Reported, H. Transportation and Public Safety	05-27-20
Passed House (92-0)	06-09-20

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