



Senate Fiscal Agency  
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BILL



ANALYSIS

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House Bill 4895 (as reported with amendment)  
Sponsor: Representative Dianne Byrum  
House Committee: Transportation  
Senate Committee: Transportation

Date Completed: 10-13-03

### **RATIONALE**

Mason Fire Chief James Pelton died on August 10, 2001, in an automobile accident while on his way to a department meeting. The driver of another car involved in the accident was charged with negligent homicide. According to a resolution passed by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners to honor Chief Pelton, he was a 37-year veteran of the Mason City Fire Department and had served as the Fire Chief since 1992. He also served as a certified fire inspector, a member of the Michigan Fire Chief's Association, the Alert Fire Association, the Tri-County Fire Chief's Association, the Ingham County Fire Chief's Association, and the Local Emergency Planning Committee, as well as vice chairperson of the Ingham County 911 Advisory Committee. He was a retired barber, a lifetime member of the Optimist Club, and a co-founder of the Mason Freestyle Wrestling Club. It has been suggested that a section of highway should be named for him to commemorate his service to the community.

known for his kind demeanor, dedicated leadership, his positive attitude and as a man who always worked diligently for the betterment of his department." Over the course of many years, he demonstrated a commitment to the citizens of the City of Mason and Ingham County. He was Mason's first full-time fire chief and was involved in initiating the construction of a new fire station, recruiting fire-fighters, and improving training standards. Naming the portion of US-127 in Ingham County after Chief Pelton would be a fitting tribute to him and a public acknowledgment of his dedication to the community.

Legislative Analyst: Julie Koval

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: Craig Thiel

### **CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Michigan Memorial Highway Act to designate the portion of US-127 in Ingham County as the "James M. Pelton Firefighters Memorial Highway".

Proposed MCL 250.1067

### **ARGUMENTS**

*(Please note: The arguments contained in this analysis originate from sources outside the Senate Fiscal Agency. The Senate Fiscal Agency neither supports nor opposes legislation.)*

#### **Supporting Argument**

The resolution of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners states, "Chief Pelton was

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.