

Legislative Analysis



GRAHAM BARLOW JR. MEMORIAL HIGHWAY AND HIGHWAY NAMING PROVISIONS

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House Bill 4204 (Substitute H-2)

Sponsor: Rep. Ben Glardon

Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure

Complete to 5-21-13

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4204 AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

The bill would amend the Michigan Memorial Highway Act (MCL 250.1001 et al.) to designate the portion of Highway M-71 within the village limits of the Village of Vernon (Shiawassee County) as the "Graham Barlow Jr., WWII Memorial Highway."

The bill also would amend the act to specify the following:

- A state trunk line highway or a portion of a state trunk line highway could not have more than one name assigned under the act.
- The name of a highway or portion of a highway named under the act would be in effect no longer than 50 years.

A state trunk line highway or a portion of a state trunk line highway could only be named after a deceased individual who was one or more of the following:

- A member of the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard who died in the line of duty.
- An officer employed by the Department of State Police who died in the line of duty.
- A first responder (to include a police officer) who died in the line of duty on a state trunk line highway.
- An individual born or who resided in the state and who was of statewide significance, if the trunk line highway or portion of the highway was named within five years after that individual's death.
- An event or organization of statewide significance.

The bill also provides that a portion of a state trunk line highway located within the jurisdictional limits of a city or village could be named only after a deceased individual who was (1) a local police officer or a first responder who died in the line of duty, and/or (2) an individual who was born or resided in a city or village and who was of significance to the city or village, if the state trunk line highway or portion of the highway was named within five years after the individual's death.

The bill would not apply to a state trunk line highway or portion of the highway that was named under the act before the effective date of the bill.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Section 2 of the Michigan Memorial Highway Act indicates that the State Transportation Department shall only provide for the erection of suitable markers indicating the name of the highway "when sufficient private contributions are received to completely cover the cost of erecting and maintaining those markers." As a result, the bill has no state or local fiscal impact.

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