Legislative Analysis



BRIAN TERRY MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

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House Bill 5561 as referred to second committee

Sponsor: Rep. Joseph N. Bellino, Jr. 1st House Committee: Transportation 2nd House Committee: Ways and Means Analysis available at http://www.legislature.mi.gov

Complete to 6-24-20

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5561 would amend the Michigan Memorial Highway Act to designate the portion of highway US-24 beginning at the northern city limit of Flat Rock in Wayne County and continuing south to its intersection with highway I-275 in Monroe County as the "Brian Terry Memorial Highway."

Proposed MCL 250.1105

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

According to committee testimony and the Officer Down Memorial Page, Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry was shot and killed near Rio Rico, Arizona, on December 15, 2010, while attempting to apprehend a group of armed subjects.

Agent Terry and several other agents were attempting to arrest the group when shots were exchanged between the suspects and agents. Agent Terry sustained life-threatening injuries and was flown to a hospital nearby, where he succumbed to his injuries the following morning.

According to testimony at trial, Agent Terry was part of an elite border BORTAC (Border Patrol Tactical Unit) unit stationed in a rural area north of Nogales, Arizona, to interdict an armed "rip crew" that was robbing drug traffickers. At the sentencing of the offenders, U.S. Attorney Robert Brewer of the Southern District of California said of Agent Terry, "Brian Terry exemplified the very best of law enforcement: A selfless, determined agent who was committed to protecting the people of the United States."

Prior to his service as a U.S. Border Patrol Agent, Agent Terry was a U.S. Marine veteran, who also served as a police officer with the Lincoln Park Police Department. Agent Terry was a U.S. Border Patrol Agent for three years and five months. He was 40 years old.

Dedicating a portion of US-24 would be an appropriate way to recognize and honor his service and sacrifice to our state and our nation.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

Section 2 of the Michigan Memorial Highway Act indicates that the state transportation department shall provide for the erection of suitable markers indicating the name of the highway only "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.

POSITIONS:

The Department of Transportation indicated a <u>neutral</u> position on the bill. (6-23-20)

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[■] This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.