

OFFICER SCOTT FLAHIVE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

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Senate Bill 527 (S-1) as reported from House committee

Sponsor: Sen. Roger Victory

1st Committee: Transportation

2nd Committee: Ways and Means

Senate Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure

Complete to 12-10-19

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

(Enacted as Public Act 11 of 2020)

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 527 would amend the Memorial Highway Act to designate the portion of highway US-31 beginning at the intersection with Robbins Road in the city of Grand Haven and continuing north to the intersection with Jackson Street as the “Officer Scott Flahive Memorial Highway.”

Currently, highway US-31 beginning at the border between Michigan and Indiana in Berrien County and extending to the Straits of Mackinac at the county line of Emmet and Cheboygan Counties is named the “Blue Star Memorial Highway” under the act. The bill would exclude the portion of highway US-31 described above from this designation.

MCL 250.1011 and proposed MCL 250.1011c

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Grand Haven Public Safety Officer Scott Flahive was born to Craig and Karen Flahive on September 28, 1966, in Muskegon, Michigan. He graduated from Grand Haven High School in 1985 and was a three-year letterman in baseball. Upon graduating from Grand Valley State University, Scott entered the police academy. There he learned the code: duty, honor, and courage.

According to committee testimony and news reports, on the evening of December 13, 1994, while on duty, Officer Flahive intercepted the getaway car of a county jail escapee by conducting a traffic stop on Beacon Boulevard near Park Street. As Officer Flahive approached the vehicle, the escapee, who was lying in the back seat, shot through the door with a hunting rifle, striking him in the hip. Officer Flahive died of his injuries. He was 28 years old.

Designating a portion of US-31 in Grand Haven to Public Safety Officer Scott Flahive would be an appropriate way to honor his life and his commitment to duty, honor, and courage through service to his community and the State of Michigan.

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 Michigan Department of Transportation indicated a neutral position on the bill.
(12-10-19)

Legislative Analyst: E. Best
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