

Legislative Analysis



POLICE CHIEF FRED POSAVETZ MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

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Senate Bill 1143 as passed by the Senate
Sponsor: Sen. Michael D. MacDonald
House Committee: Transportation
Senate Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure
Complete to 12-7-22

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

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 1143 would amend the Michigan Memorial Highway Act to designate the portion of highway M-97 between Harrington Street and 16 Mile Road in Clinton Township as the “Police Chief Fred Posavetz Memorial Highway.”

Proposed MCL 250.1113

BACKGROUND:

According to Senate committee testimony, the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES), and the *Detroit Free Press*, Fred Posavetz was born on June 15, 1956, in Detroit Michigan to Fred and Louise (Bonora) Posavetz. He was a graduate of Detroit Pershing High School and Wayne State University, earning a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice. Shortly after graduating from Wayne State, he attended and also graduated from the FBI National Academy.

In 1980, Fred began his career with the Clinton Township Police Department. He was soon promoted to sergeant. In 1996, he was named captain of the road patrol, special investigations division, criminal investigations division, and support services. In 2007, he became the department’s chief.

Known for his love of service and dedication to his community, Chief Posavetz was also a member of the FBI National Academy Associates training curriculum for the Michigan Chapter, a president of the Macomb County Chiefs Association, and a founding member of the Clinton Township Police Department Honor Guard. He was credited with starting the department’s K-9 unit and becoming the township’s first K-9 officer, training two German shepherd dogs. On March 22, 2021, Chief Fred Posavetz died from complications from COVID-19 while serving in the line of duty. He was 64 years old.

Designating a portion of highway M-97 in Clinton Township would be an appropriate way to recognized and honor Police Chief Fred Posavetz for his service and commitment 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.

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