

Legislative Analysis



DARRYL M. RANTANEN MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

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House Bill 4429 as reported from committee

Sponsor: Rep. Beau Matthew LaFave

Committee: Transportation

Complete to: 3-17-21

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

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4429 would amend the Michigan Memorial Highway Act to designate highways US-2 and US-41 in Delta County, from the eastern limit of Hyde to the western limit of Bark River, as the "Darryl M. Rantanen Memorial Highway."

Proposed MCL 250.1008b

BACKGROUND:

According to committee testimony, the Michigan State Trooper Association, and the Officer Down Memorial Page, Trooper Darryl M. Rantanen was killed in May 1974 while in pursuit of a stolen vehicle. Trooper Rantanen's partner, who was driving their patrol car, attempted to pull alongside the stolen car. Its driver swerved into the patrol car. Both vehicles left the roadway, with the patrol car turning onto its side and its top striking a tree. Trooper Rantanen's partner was seriously injured. Trooper Darryl M. Rantanen died as a result of his injuries. He was the 29th Michigan State Police officer to die in the line of duty. He was 36 years old.

Designating a portion of highways US-2 and US-41 in Delta County to the memory of Trooper Darryl M. Rantanen would be an appropriate way to recognize his sacrifice and honor his service to the citizens of his community and the state of Michigan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Section 2 of the 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:

A representative of the Michigan State Police testified in support of the bill. (3-16-21)

The Michigan Department of Transportation indicated a neutral position on the bill. (3-16-21)

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