

# Legislative Analysis



## **OFFICER JESSICA NAGLE-WILSON MEMORIAL HIGHWAY**

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**House Bill 6079 as reported from committee**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Regina Weiss**  
**Committee: Transportation**  
**Complete to 5-25-22**

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

### **SUMMARY:**

House Bill 6079 would amend the Michigan Memorial Highway Act to designate the portion of highway I-75 between 8 Mile Road and 10 Mile Road in the city of Hazel Park as the "Officer Jessica Nagle-Wilson Memorial Highway."

Proposed MCL 250.1035a

### **BACKGROUND:**

According to committee testimony and online sources, Jessica Ann Nagle was born to Deborah and William Nagle on May 23, 1976, in Warren, Michigan. Jessica attended the Warren Public Schools and was a scholar-athlete in her senior year, playing softball, volleyball, and basketball. She was an animal lover and visited animal shelters to help find suitable homes for homeless animals. Jessica graduated from Fitzgerald High School in June 1994. She attended Ferris State University and was president of the Lambda Alpha Epsilon criminal justice fraternity, graduating with a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice in May 2000. After interning with the Forestry Department and the Port Huron Police Department, Officer Jessica Nagle joined the Hazel Park Police Department in December 2000. She married Matthew Wilson, a Detroit Police officer, on May 18, 2002.

On the evening of July 28, 2002, before 9 p.m., Officer Jessica Nagle-Wilson responded to an animal disturbance complaint at a house on Jarvis Street. As she exited her patrol car, a man standing on the porch suddenly fired on her with a shotgun. Although wearing her vest, she suffered fatal wounds and died of her injuries. Officer Jessica Nagle-Wilson was among 148 officers who lost their lives in 2002, and she was the first female officer from the Hazel Park Police Department to die in the line of duty. She was 26 years old.

Dedicating a portion of highway I-75 between 8 Mile Road and 10 Mile Road in the city of Hazel Park would be an appropriate way to honor her sacrifice and her dedication and service to the community of Hazel Park.

### **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. (5-18-22)

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