



Senate Fiscal Agency  
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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 84 (as enacted)  
Sponsor: Senator Michelle A. McManus  
Senate Committee: Transportation  
House Committee: Transportation

**PUBLIC ACT 409 OF 2008**

Date Completed: 7-2-09

**RATIONALE**

American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., established in 1928, is a group of women whose sons and daughters died while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. In order to honor their children, members of the organization work with and support other veterans' organizations, volunteer at veterans' hospitals, and support the mothers of veterans who died while serving.

Since portions of highways throughout the State are named in honor of particular individuals and groups, including veterans, it was suggested that the portion of M-55 between Manistee and Cadillac be named in recognition of the sacrifices of the mothers and the service of their children.

**CONTENT**

The bill amended the Michigan Memorial Highway Act to name Highway M-55, from its beginning point in Manistee County continuing east to its intersection with M-115 in Wexford County, as the "Gold Star Mothers Memorial Highway".

The bill took effect on January 6, 2009.

MCL 250.2067

**ARGUMENTS**

*(Please note: The arguments contained in this analysis originate from sources outside the Senate Fiscal Agency. The Senate Fiscal Agency neither supports nor opposes legislation.)*

**Supporting Argument**

Naming a portion of M-55 the "Gold Star Mothers Memorial Highway" honors the Gold Star Mothers. According to its website, the organization assists veterans and their dependents in the presentation of claims to the Veterans' Administration, works to perpetuate the memory of those whose lives have been sacrificed in U.S. wars, assists all Gold Star Mothers and their descendants, and promotes peace and good will for the United States and all other nations. The memorial highway will be an acknowledgement of their work and sacrifices and a way to show appreciation for the service of their children. According to Senate Transportation Committee testimony, the 11 ladies auxiliaries of veterans' posts in the vicinity of the highway pledged to pay for signs and their installation.

Legislative Analyst: Curtis Walker

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: Debra Hollon

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.