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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| C.S.H.B. 538 |
| By: Bailes |
| Defense & Veterans' Affairs |
| Committee Report (Substituted) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  There have been calls from constituents in Liberty County who wish to honor the selfless service of veterans who have made extreme sacrifices for American freedom by serving their county in the armed forces. C.S.H.B. 538 seeks to honor these veterans by establishing a Veterans Memorial Highway in Liberty County. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS**  C.S.H.B. 538 amends the Transportation Code to designate the portion of State Highway 105 in Liberty County from Business State Highway 105-T to State Highway 321 as the Veterans Memorial Highway. The bill requires the Texas Department of Transportation, subject to a grant or donation of funds, to do the following:   * design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Veterans Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and * erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  September 1, 2023. |
| **COMPARISON OF INTRODUCED AND SUBSTITUTE**  While C.S.H.B. 538 may differ from the introduced in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following summarizes the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.  Whereas the introduced designated Business State Highway 105-T in Liberty County as the Veterans Memorial Highway, the substitute designates the portion of State Highway 105 in Liberty County from Business State Highway 105-T to State Highway 321 as the Veterans Memorial Highway. |
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