By:  Hefner (Senate Sponsor - Hughes) H.B. No. 3642

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 15, 2025; May 16, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Transportation; May 23, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 23, 2025, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                       Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Nichols                 X

West                    X

Bettencourt                       X

Hagenbuch               X

Hinojosa of Hidalgo     X

Johnson                 X

King                              X

Miles                             X

Perry                             X

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 3642 By:  Hinojosa of Hidalgo

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the designation of portions of the state highway system as memorial highways and bridges and to certain memorial markers and designations on certain highways.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Section 201.911, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(a)  In this section, "victim" means a person killed in a highway collision while operating or riding on a motorcycle. The term does not include a person who was under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance at the time of the collision.

(c)  A sign designed and posted under this section shall include:

(1)  a motorcyclist safety message selected from the options provided by commission rule under Subsection (c-1) [~~red cross~~];

(2)  the phrase "In Memory Of" and the name of one or more victims in accordance with the commission rule; and

(3)  the date of the collision that resulted in the victim's death.

(c-1)  The commission by rule shall develop motorcyclist safety messages that may be used on the memorial signs under this section.

SECTION 2.  Subchapter B, Chapter 225, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Sections 225.243, 225.244, 225.245, and 225.246 to read as follows:

Sec. 225.243.  DEPUTY SHERIFF DAVID BOSECKER MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) The portion of U.S. Highway 183 in Eastland County between its intersection with Farm-to-Market Road 2526 and its intersection with Farm-to-Market Road 2731 is designated as the Deputy Sheriff David Bosecker Memorial Highway. The designation is in addition to any other designation.

(b)  Subject to Section 225.021(c), the department shall:

(1)  design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Deputy Sheriff David Bosecker Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and

(2)  erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

Sec. 225.244.  CECIL AND DOROTHY BELL MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) The portion of U.S. Highway 79 in Freestone and Leon Counties between its intersection with U.S. Highway 84 and its intersection with the western municipal limits of Oakwood is designated as the Cecil and Dorothy Bell Memorial Highway. The designation is in addition to any other designation.

(b)  Subject to Section 225.021(c), the department shall:

(1)  design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Cecil and Dorothy Bell Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and

(2)  erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

Sec. 225.245.  HAMBY-WEBB MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) The portion of State Highway 315 in Panola County between its intersection with the western Panola County line and its intersection with the western municipal boundary of Carthage is designated as the Hamby-Webb Memorial Highway. The designation is in addition to any other designation.

(b)  Subject to Section 225.021(c), the department shall:

(1)  design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Hamby-Webb Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and

(2)  erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

Sec. 225.246.  EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) The portion of U.S. Highway 67 in Dallas and Ellis Counties between its intersection with U.S. Highway 287 and its intersection with Interstate Highway 20 is designated as the Eddie Bernice Johnson Memorial Highway. The designation is in addition to any other designation.

(b)  Subject to Section 225.021(c), the department shall:

(1)  design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Eddie Bernice Johnson Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and

(2)  erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

SECTION 3.  (a) Not later than December 1, 2025, the Texas Transportation Commission shall adopt the rules required by Section 201.911(c-1), Transportation Code, as added by this Act.

(b)  Notwithstanding Section 201.911, Transportation Code, as amended by this Act, the Texas Department of Transportation is not required to comply with the changes in law made by this Act to that section before March 1, 2026.

SECTION 4.  It is the intent of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, that the provisions added by this Act be renumbered to prevent multiple provisions with the same designation.

SECTION 5.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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