



Bill Analysis

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Legislative Service Commission

Sub. S.B. 44

127th General Assembly

(As Reported by H. Infrastructure, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs)

Sens. Carey, Cafaro, Clancy, Padgett, D. Miller, Schuler, Grendell, Bocchieri, Cates, Harris, Schaffer, Spada, Stivers, Wilson

Reps. Domenick, Reinhard, Wachtmann

BILL SUMMARY

- Allows local jurisdictions to request the Director of Transportation to designate a name for a bridge that is part of the state highway system.
- Permits the use of retractable studded tires on motor vehicles at any time of the year so long as the studs are not extended at any time during the period from April 16 through October 31.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Administrative bridge naming

Current law allows any highway that is part of the state highway system to be officially assigned a distinctive name within a county. The name must be commemorative of a historical event or personage or a commonly accepted and appropriate name. The governing bodies of the county and each township and municipal corporation within the county through which the highway extends, upon agreement, may submit a request to the Director of Transportation for approval of the highway name. The Director has 30 days to inform the local governments of the Director's decision, and the agreement of the local governments may not be withdrawn or amended during the time the request is pending.

If the Director approves the request, the requesting authority may, at its own expense, erect appropriate markers indicating the name of the highway within the county. Only one name per county may be assigned to a highway under current law, and the name must apply to the entire extension of the highway within the county. The assigned highway name may be altered or abolished, with the Director's approval, in the same manner as provided for assignment of the original name.

Current law specifies that it does not restrict the authority of a municipal corporation to designate the name of a state highway within the municipal corporation. If a municipal corporation names a highway within the municipal corporation, no other name may be assigned to that highway under current law.

The bill extends this current administrative procedure for naming state highways to naming bridges on state highways. Under the bill, no bridge may have more than one name in a county and no bridge may be named under the bill's provisions if the municipal corporation within which the bridge is located has named the bridge. (Sec. 5511.09.)

Retractable studded tires

Current law prohibits any person from operating any motor vehicle, other than a public safety vehicle or school bus, that is equipped with studded tires on any street or highway except during the period extending from November 1 of each year through April 15 of the succeeding year. (R.C. 5589.081.)

The bill retains this provision but enacts a new provision relative to retractable studded tires. Under the bill, a person may operate a motor vehicle that is equipped with retractable studded tires with the studs retracted at any time of the year but may operate such a motor vehicle with the tire studs extended only during the period extending from November 1 of each year through April 15 of the succeeding year. Therefore, such a motor vehicle cannot be operated with the studs extended at any time during the period from April 16 through October 31.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-20-07
Reported, S. Highways & Transportation	06-26-07
Passed Senate (31-0)	10-09-07
Reported, H. Infrastructure, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs	04-24-08

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