Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee

Tuesday, January 20, 2026
3:30 PM - 5:30 PM
Reed Hall (102 HOB)

Daniel Perez
Speaker

Chip LaMarca
Chair

Committee Meeting Notice

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee

Start Date and Time:	Tuesday, January 20, 2026 03:30 PM
End Date and Time:	Tuesday, January 20, 2026 05:30 PM
Location:	Reed Hall (102 HOB)
Duration:	2.00 hrs

Consideration of the following bill(s):

HB 25 Transportation Facility Designations by Daniels
HB 335 Spaceport Operations by Kendall, Duggan
HB 403 Transportation Facility Designations/Warrior Sacrifice Way by Andrade
HB 885 Transportation Facility Designations/State Representative/Circuit Judge Hon. John J. Crews, Jr., Memorial Highway by Brannan
HB 1075 Municipal Utility Connections by Sirois

NOTICE FINALIZED on 01/15/2026 4:28PM by Marks.Amie

HB 25

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: HB 25	**COMPANION BILL:** None
TITLE: Transportation Facility Designations	**LINKED BILLS:** None
SPONSOR(S): Daniels	**RELATED BILLS:** None

Committee References

Economic Infrastructure ➤ Commerce

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:
The bill designates the bridge on Moncrief Road West over the Ribault River in Duval County as "Bernard Wilkes Ribault River Bridge" and directs the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to erect suitable markers for the designation.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:
The bill will have an insignificant negative impact on state government expenditures.

JUMP TO SUMMARY ANALYSIS RELEVANT INFORMATION BILL HISTORY

ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill requires FDOT to erect suitable markers to designate the bridge on Moncrief Road West over the Ribault River in Duval County as "Bernard Wilkes Ribault River Bridge." (Section 1).

FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:

STATE GOVERNMENT:

The bill will have an insignificant negative impact on state government expenditures. In 2025, FDOT estimated a cost of $2,400 per designation for the appropriate markers, which provides for two signs per designation at $1,200 per sign.[1] This cost can be absorbed within existing FDOT resources.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

Legislative Designation of Transportation Facilities
The Legislature may designate a transportation facility, such as a bridge or a portion of a road, for honorary or memorial purposes or to distinguish a particular facility. Legislative designations do not officially change the existing names of facilities and may not require local governments or private parties to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone number system listing.[2]

Unless specifically provided by law, public facilities such as roads, bridges, and other similar facilities may not be named for any living person.[3]

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[1] Email from Jack Rogers, Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Transportation, RE: Road Designations Review (Feb. 13, 2025).
[2] S. 334.071(1), F.S.
[3] S. 267.062(1), F.S.

Transportation Facility Markers

Following a legislative designation, FDOT is required to place markers at the termini or intersections specified for each highway segment or bridge designated and may place other markers it deems as appropriate.[4] Before markers may be erected, the appropriate city or county commission must pass a resolution in support of the particular honorary designation. If the designated bridge or road segment is located in more than one city or county, there must be resolutions supporting the designation from each affected local government before markers may be erected.[5]

Bernard Wilkes

Coach Bernard Wilkes was recognized as one of the most successful high school coaches in Florida's history. He dedicated 30 years of service to the Duval County Public School System, teaching and coaching basketball at Ribault Senior High School. Throughout his career, Coach Wilkes led the basketball team to four state championships, 12 Gateway Conference championships, 21 district titles, and reached the Florida High School Athletic Association Finals 16 times. Coach Wilkes passed away on March 5, 2006.

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee			Keating	Dallas
Commerce Committee				

[4] S. 334.071(2), F.S.
[5] S. 334.071(3), F.S.

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to transportation facility designations; providing an honorary designation of a certain transportation facility in a specified county; directing the Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Bernard Wilkes Ribault River Bridge designated; Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers.—

(1) The bridge on Moncrief Road West over the Ribault River in Duval County is designated as "Bernard Wilkes Ribault River Bridge."

(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating Bernard Wilkes Ribault River Bridge as described in subsection (1).

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee
HB 25
Transportation Facility Designations

AMENDMENT SUMMARY
January 20, 2026

Amendment 927807 by McFarland (line 17):

- Directs the Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers designating that portion of U.S. 41 between North Creek and Blackburn Point Road in Sarasota County as "Dickey Betts Memorial Highway."

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	___ (Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	___ (Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	___ (Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	___ (Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	___ (Y/N)
OTHER	_____

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee

Representative McFarland offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 17 and 18, insert:

Section 2. Dickey Betts Memorial Highway designated; Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers.—

(1) That portion of U.S. 41 between North Creek and Blackburn Point Road in Sarasota County is designated as "Dickey Betts Memorial Highway."

(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating Dickey Betts Memorial Highway as described in subsection (1).

T I T L E A M E N D M E N T

Remove lines 3-4 and insert:
designations; providing honorary designations of certain transportation facilities in specified counties;

HB 335

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: HB 335	**COMPANION BILL:** SB 916 (Mayfield)
TITLE: Spaceport Operations	**LINKED BILLS:** None
SPONSOR(S): Kendall and Duggan	**RELATED BILLS:** None

Committee References

Economic Infrastructure ➤ Transportation & Economic Development Budget ➤ Commerce

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:
The bill provides that authority over operational oversight, management, and day-to-day administration of each spaceport is vested in the spaceport director or commander for each spaceport and requires each spaceport to develop and maintain an operational governance plan consistent with Space Florida's statewide strategic plan. The bill converts the representatives from the Jacksonville Aviation Authority and the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority from ex officio, nonvoting members to voting members on Space Florida's board of directors. Additionally, the bill defines the term "quintimodal transportation hub" and requires Space Florida to enhance and promote development and use of such hubs in Florida.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:
None

JUMP TO SUMMARY ANALYSIS RELEVANT INFORMATION BILL HISTORY

ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

Spaceport and Space Florida Authority

The bill distinguishes the authority of individual spaceports in relation to Space Florida's authority. In particular, the bill provides that, notwithstanding any other provision of Space Florida's governing statutes, authority over the operational oversight, management, and day-to-day administration of each spaceport shall be vested in the spaceport director or commander[1] for that facility. The bill prohibits Space Florida from exercising direct control over local operational decisions unless specifically requested in writing by the spaceport director or commander or required to comply with applicable federal law or regulation. The bill provides that these terms do not diminish Space Florida's authority to finance, lease, or own spaceport facilities or to coordinate economic development initiatives across multiple spaceport territories. Further, the bill specifies that Space Florida is responsible for statewide strategic planning, financing, economic development, and intergovernmental coordination. (Sections 1 and 3)

The bill requires each spaceport to develop and maintain an operational governance plan consistent with Space Florida's statewide strategic plan. Each spaceport must submit its plan annually to Space Florida. The bill provides that these operational governance plans are not subject to approval by Space Florida. (Section 3)

[1] The bill defines "spaceport director or commander" to mean "the individual designated by the governing body, agency, or military authority of a spaceport territory to administer the operations, maintenance, safety, and local agreements of that facility."

Space Florida Board of Directors

The bill converts the representatives from the Jacksonville Aviation Authority and the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority from ex officio, nonvoting members to voting members on Space Florida's board of directors. (Section 4)

Quintimodal Transportation Hubs

The bill requires Space Florida, in coordination with the Department of Transportation (DOT), metropolitan planning organizations, and local governments, to enhance and promote the development and use of quintimodal transportation hubs in this state. The bill defines these a quintimodal transportation hub as a spaceport territory within which interconnected transportation facilities are available to move people or property by means of road, railroad, airport, seaport, and spaceport facilities. (Sections 1 and 2)

The bill updates cross references to conform to the provisions of the bill. (Sections 5, 6, 7)

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2026.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

Space Florida

The Legislature passed the Space Florida Act in 2006,[2] which consolidated Florida's three existing space entities – Florida Space Authority, Florida Space Research Institute, and Florida Aerospace Finance Corporation – into a single entity called Space Florida.[3] Space Florida is established as an independent special district, a body politic and corporate, and a subdivision of the state.[4] Space Florida is subject to the provisions of the Uniform Special District Accountability Act, which governs issues like operations, financial reporting, taxation, assessments, elections, compliance with general law, and comprehensive planning.[5]

Space Florida's objectives include supporting the growth and development of a sustainable and world-leading aerospace industry in Florida.[6] Space Florida acts as Florida's point of contact for state aerospace-related activities with federal agencies, the military, state agencies, businesses, and the private sector.[7] Space Florida is authorized to purchase or construct facilities, set rates, fees, and charges for the use of facilities, undertake joint financing with municipalities or private sector entities, and execute contracts with persons or spaceport users to facilitate the financing, construction, leasing, or sale of any project.[8]

Powers and Duties of Space Florida

Florida law provides certain powers to Space Florida, including, but not limited to:[9]

- Using a corporate seal;
- Using patents, copyrights, and trademarks;
- Lending and investing money;
- Acquiring certain properties;

[2] Ch. 2006-60, Laws of Fla.
[3] *See* ss. 331.301 *through* 331.371, F.S.
[4] S. 331.302(1), F.S.
[5] S. 331.302(5), F.S.
[6] S. 331.302(1), F.S.
[7] S. 331.3011(3), F.S.
[8] S. 331.305, F.S.
[9] *Id.*

- Executing contracts;
- Issuing revenue bonds;
- Making expenditures for entertainment and travel expenses and business clients, guests, and other authorized persons; and
- Fixing and collecting fees, loan payments, rental payments, and other charges in connection with financing agreements.

Florida law also gives Space Florida certain duties, including, but not limited to, creating a business plan, entering into agreements and cooperating with other state agencies, and consulting with appropriate federal agencies.[10] Specifically, Space Florida is required to:

- Enter into agreements with the Department of Education, DOT, the Department of Commerce, and CareerSource Florida.[11]
- In cooperation with the Department of Commerce, collaborate to develop a plan to retain, expand, attract, and create aerospace industry entities, public or private, which results in the creation of high-value-added businesses and jobs in Florida.[12]
- Develop, in cooperation with the Department of Commerce, a plan to provide financing assistance to aerospace businesses.[13]
- Carry out its responsibilities for spaceport operations by:[14]
    - Seeking federal support and developing partnerships to renew and upgrade the infrastructure and technologies at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, the John F. Kennedy Space Center, and the Eastern Range.
    - Supporting federal efforts to clarify roles and responsibilities of federal agencies in an effort to streamline access for commercial launch users.
    - Pursuing the development of commercial spaceports in the state in partnership with counties or municipalities, the Federal Government, or private entities.
    - Promoting and facilitating launch activity within the state by supporting and assisting the efforts of commercial launch operators to obtain authorization from federal agencies for launching from Florida.
    - Consulting, as necessary, with the appropriate federal, state, and local authorities, including the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Defense, DOT, Florida National Guard, and industry on establishing and operating spaceport infrastructure and facilities in the state.

Board of Directors

The Space Florida board of directors is comprised of nine voting members and three ex officio, nonvoting members. The governor (or designee of the governor) serves ex officio as the chair and a voting member of the board and appoints five additional voting board members with experience in the aerospace industry, bond finance, a relevant academic field, or other specified airport or aircraft operations. The remainder of the voting board members consists of the Secretary of Transportation, one member appointed by the President of the Senate, and one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The governor selects the three ex officio, nonvoting members of the board, which consist of a representative of the Jacksonville Aviation Authority, a representative of the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority, and an employee or official of a port district or port authority.[15]

[10] S. 331.3051, F.S.
[11] S. 331.3051(2), F.S.
[12] S. 331.3051(3), F.S.
[13] S. 331.3051(6), F.S.
[14] S. 331.3051(7), F.S.
[15] S. 331.3081, F.S.

Spaceport Planning

Space Florida must develop a spaceport master plan for expansion and modernization of space transportation facilities within spaceport territories. The plan must contain recommended projects to meet current and future commercial, national, and state space transportation requirements. Further, the plan must identify appropriate funding levels and include recommendations on appropriate sources of revenue that may be developed to contribute to the State Transportation Trust Fund.

Space Florida must submit the spaceport master plan to any appropriate metropolitan planning organization for review of intermodal impacts and to DOT for inclusion in its five-year work program of qualifying aerospace discretionary capacity improvement projects. Subject to availability of appropriated funds, DOT may participate in the capital cost of such projects.

Spaceports in Florida

Under Florida law, a spaceport is defined as any area of land or water developed by Space Florida and intended for public use or for the launching, takeoff, and landing of spacecraft and aircraft, including any appurtenant areas which are used or intended for public use, for spaceport buildings, or for other spaceport facilities, spaceport projects, or rights-of-way.[16] Florida law designates certain real property within the state as "spaceport territory,"[17] including Cape Canaveral Spaceport in Brevard County, Cecil Spaceport in Duval County, Eglin Air Force Base in Okaloosa County, Cape San Blas in Gulf County, Space Coast Regional Airport and Spaceport in Brevard County, Homestead Air Reserve Base in Miami-Dade County, and Tyndall Air Force Base in Bay County.[18]

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is responsible for licensing launch and reentry operations at commercial spaceports.[19] An FAA license is not required for space activities that the federal government carries out for its own purposes, such as some NASA or U.S. Department of Defense launches.[20] Currently, three Florida spaceports are licensed by the FAA. The Cape Canaveral Spaceport is licensed by the FAA for vertical and horizontal launch and for reentry operations.[21] Cecil Spaceport, operated by the Jacksonville Aviation Authority, and Space Coast Spaceport, operated by the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority, are licensed by the FAA for horizontal launch operations.[22]

Quinti-modal Transportation Hubs

Brevard County hosts the world's only quinti-modal transportation hub, providing access to five modes of transportation: space, air, rail, sea, and road.[23]

[16] S. 331.303(17), F.S.
[17] S. 331.304, F.S.
[18] Space Florida, *Spaceport System Territory*, https://www.spaceflorida.gov/spaceport-system-territory (last visited Jan. 17, 2026).
[19] U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, *Commercial Space Transportation Activities,* https://www.faa.gov/newsroom/commercial-space-transportation-activities (last visited Jan. 17, 2026).
[20] *Id.*
[21] U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, *Spaceports by State,* https://www.faa.gov/space/spaceports_by_state#fl_sflc (last visited Jan. 17, 2026).
[22] *Id.*
[23] NASA, Partnerships, *Partnering with Kennedy Space Center*, https://public.ksc.nasa.gov/partnerships/partnering-with-ksc/benefits-of-partnership/five-modes-of-transportation/ (last visited Jan. 17, 2026).

RECENT LEGISLATION:

YEAR	BILL #/SUBJECT	HOUSE/*SENATE* SPONSOR(S)	OTHER INFORMATION
2023	CS/HB 7041 - Space Florida	Sirois, Duggan	Became law on July 1, 2023
2024	CS/SB 968 - Spaceport Territory	*Calatayud*	Became law on July , 2024

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee			Keating	Ray
Transportation & Economic Development Budget Subcommittee				
Commerce Committee				

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to spaceport operations; amending s. 331.303, F.S.; defining the terms "quintimodal transportation hub" and "spaceport director or commander"; amending s. 331.3051, F.S.; requiring Space Florida to enhance and promote the development and use of quintimodal transportation hubs in this state; creating s. 331.3052, F.S.; providing powers and duties of spaceport operators; providing construction; amending s. 331.3081, F.S.; revising the composition of the Space Florida board of directors; amending ss. 330.41, 331.310, and 692.201, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (15) through (17) and (18) through (21) of section 331.303, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (16) through (18) and (20) through (23), respectively, and new subsections (15) and (19) are added to that section to read:

331.303 Definitions.—

(15) "Quintimodal transportation hub" means a spaceport territory within which interconnected transportation facilities

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

are available to move people or property by means of road, railroad, airport, seaport, and spaceport facilities.

(19) "Spaceport director or commander" means the individual designated by the governing body, agency, or military authority of a spaceport territory to administer the operations, maintenance, safety, and local agreements of that facility.

Section 2. Subsections (16) and (17) of section 331.3051, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (17) and (18), respectively, and a new subsection (16) is added to that section to read:

331.3051 Duties of Space Florida.—Space Florida shall:

(16) In coordination with the Department of Transportation, metropolitan planning organizations, and local governments, enhance and promote the development and use of quintimodal transportation hubs in this state.

Section 3. Section 331.3052, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

331.3052 Powers and duties of spaceport operators.—

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, authority over the operational oversight, management, and day-to-day administration of each spaceport shall be vested in the spaceport director or commander for that facility.

(2) Space Florida shall be responsible for statewide strategic planning, financing, economic development, and intergovernmental coordination, but may not exercise direct

control over local operational decisions unless:

(a) Specifically requested in writing by the spaceport director or commander; or

(b) Required to comply with applicable federal law or regulation.

(3) Each spaceport shall develop and maintain an operational governance plan consistent with Space Florida's statewide strategic plan. Such plan must be submitted annually to Space Florida, but is not subject to approval by Space Florida.

(4) This section does not diminish Space Florida's authority to finance, lease, or own spaceport facilities or to coordinate economic development initiatives across multiple spaceport territories.

Section 4. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 331.3081, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (f) is added to that subsection, to read:

331.3081 Board of directors.—

(1) Space Florida shall be governed by an independent board of directors that consists of the Governor, who shall serve ex officio, or who may appoint a designee to serve, as the chair and a voting member of the board, and the following appointed members:

(e) A representative of each of the following entities, ~~who shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the board,~~

appointed by the Governor:

1. The Jacksonville Aviation Authority.

2. The Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority.

(f) One member who shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the board, appointed by the Governor, who is ~~3.~~ an employee or official of a port district or port authority as defined in s. 315.02(2).

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 330.41, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

330.41 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act.—

(2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this act, the term:

(b) "Critical infrastructure facility" means any of the following, if completely enclosed by a fence or other physical barrier that is obviously designed to exclude intruders, or if clearly marked with a sign or signs which indicate that entry is forbidden and which are posted on the property in a manner reasonably likely to come to the attention of intruders:

1. A power generation or transmission facility, substation, switching station, or electrical control center.

2. A chemical or rubber manufacturing or storage facility.

3. A water intake structure, water treatment facility, wastewater treatment plant, or pump station.

4. A mining facility.

5. A natural gas or compressed gas compressor station, storage facility, or natural gas or compressed gas pipeline.

6. A liquid natural gas or propane gas terminal or storage facility.

7. Any portion of an aboveground oil or gas pipeline.

8. A refinery.

9. A gas processing plant, including a plant used in the processing, treatment, or fractionation of natural gas.

10. A wireless or wired communications facility, including the tower, antennas, support structures, and all associated ground-based equipment.

11. A seaport as listed in s. 311.09(1), which need not be completely enclosed by a fence or other physical barrier and need not be marked with a sign or signs indicating that entry is forbidden.

12. An inland port or other facility or group of facilities serving as a point of intermodal transfer of freight in a specific area physically separated from a seaport.

13. An airport as defined in s. 330.27.

14. A spaceport territory as defined in s. 331.303 ~~s. 331.303(19)~~.

15. A military installation as defined in 10 U.S.C. s. 2801(c)(4) and an armory as defined in s. 250.01.

16. A dam as defined in s. 373.403(1) or other structures, such as locks, floodgates, or dikes, which are designed to maintain or control the level of navigable waterways.

17. A state correctional institution as defined in s.

944.02 or a contractor-operated correctional facility authorized under chapter 957.

18. A secure detention center or facility as defined in s. 985.03, or a moderate-risk residential facility, a high-risk residential facility, or a maximum-risk residential facility as those terms are described in s. 985.03(44).

19. A county detention facility as defined in s. 951.23.

20. A critical infrastructure facility as defined in s. 692.201.

Section 6. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 331.310, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

331.310 Powers and duties of the board of directors.—

(2) The board of directors shall:

(e) Prepare an annual report of operations as a supplement to the annual report required under s. 331.3051(18) ~~s. 331.3051(17)~~. The report must include, but not be limited to, a balance sheet, an income statement, a statement of changes in financial position, a reconciliation of changes in equity accounts, a summary of significant accounting principles, the auditor's report, a summary of the status of existing and proposed bonding projects, comments from management about the year's business, and prospects for the next year.

Section 7. Paragraph (i) of subsection (2) of section 692.201, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

692.201 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(2) "Critical infrastructure facility" means any of the following, if it employs measures such as fences, barriers, or guard posts that are designed to exclude unauthorized persons:

(i) A spaceport territory as defined in s. 331.303 ~~s. 331.303(19)~~.

Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee
HB 335
Spaceport Operations

AMENDMENT SUMMARY
January 20, 2026

Amendment 569029 by Kendall (line 61):

- Requires each spaceport to maintain an updated list of spaceport site readiness development projects consistent with its operational governance plan and with Space Florida's spaceport master plan and specifies the types of projects to be included on the list.
- Removes provisions of the bill that make representatives of the Jacksonville Aviation Authority and the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority voting members of Space Florida’s board of directors.

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	__	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	__	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	__	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	__	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	__	(Y/N)
OTHER	_____	

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee

Representative Kendall offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove lines 61-82 and insert:

(4) Each spaceport shall maintain an updated list of spaceport site readiness development projects consistent with its operational governance plan and with Space Florida's spaceport master plan developed under s. 331.360. Such projects include, but are not limited to, utility and commodity supply extension, transportation infrastructure expansion, environmental reviews, and similar activities that, if completed, will support the future expansion of spaceport operations and related space and hypersonic industry activities

(e.g., payload processing, system manufacturing, testing, etc.). Such list must be submitted annually to Space Florida.

(5) This section does not diminish Space Florida's authority to finance, lease, or own spaceport facilities or to coordinate economic development initiatives across multiple spaceport territories.

T I T L E A M E N D M E N T

Remove lines 10-11 and insert:
construction;

HB 403

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: HB 403	**COMPANION BILL:** SB 628 (Gaetz)
TITLE: Transportation Facility Designations/Warrior Sacrifice Way	**LINKED BILLS:** None
SPONSOR(S): Andrade	**RELATED BILLS:** None

Committee References

Economic Infrastructure ➤ Commerce

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:
The bill designates the portion of S.R. 295/Navy Boulevard between Duncan Road and S.R. 292/Gulf Beach Highway in Escambia County as "Warrior Sacrifice Way" and directs the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to erect suitable markers for the designation.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:
The bill will have an insignificant negative impact on state government expenditures.

JUMP TO SUMMARY ANALYSIS RELEVANT INFORMATION BILL HISTORY

ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill requires FDOT to erect suitable markers to designate the portion of S.R. 295/Navy Boulevard between Duncan Road and S.R. 292/Gulf Beach Highway in Escambia County as "Warrior Sacrifice Way." (Section 1).

FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:

STATE GOVERNMENT:

The bill will have an insignificant negative impact on state government expenditures. In 2025, FDOT estimated a cost of $2,400 per designation for the appropriate markers, which provides for two signs per designation at $1,200 per sign.[1] This cost can be absorbed within existing FDOT resources.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

Legislative Designation of Transportation Facilities
The Legislature may designate a transportation facility, such as a bridge or a portion of a road, for honorary or memorial purposes or to distinguish a particular facility. Legislative designations do not officially change the existing names of facilities and may not require local governments or private parties to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone number system listing.[2]

[1] Email from Jack Rogers, Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Transportation, RE: Road Designations Review (Feb. 13, 2025).
[2] S. 334.071(1), F.S.

Unless specifically provided by law, public facilities such as roads, bridges, and other similar facilities may not be named for any living person.[3]

Transportation Facility Markers

Following a legislative designation, FDOT is required to place markers at the termini or intersections specified for each highway segment or bridge designated and may place other markers it deems as appropriate.[4] Before markers may be erected, the appropriate city or county commission must pass a resolution in support of the particular honorary designation. If the designated bridge or road segment is located in more than one city or county, there must be resolutions supporting the designation from each affected local government before markers may be erected.[5]

Warrior Sacrifice Way

Warrior Sacrifice Way honors the victims of the terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola on December 6, 2019, where three men were killed and eight others were injured.[6]

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee			Keating	Dallas
Commerce Committee				

[3] S. 267.062(1), F.S.
[4] S. 334.071(2), F.S.
[5] S. 334.071(3), F.S.
[6] NBC News, *Suspected shooter at Naval Air Station Pensacola was Saudi Air Force member,* December 6, 2019, https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/active-shooter-reported-naval-air-station-pensacola-n1096966 (last visited January 16, 2026).

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to transportation facility designations; providing an honorary designation of a certain transportation facility in a specified county; directing the Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Warrior Sacrifice Way designated; Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers.—

(1) That portion of S.R. 295/Navy Boulevard between Duncan Road and S.R. 292/Gulf Beach Highway in Escambia County is designated as "Warrior Sacrifice Way."

(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating Warrior Sacrifice Way as described in subsection (1).

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: HB 885 **TITLE:** Transportation Facility Designations/State Representative/Circuit Judge Hon. John J. Crews, Jr., Memorial Highway **SPONSOR(S):** Brannan	**COMPANION BILL:** None **LINKED BILLS:** None **RELATED BILLS:** None

Committee References

Economic Infrastructure ➤ Commerce

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:
The bill designates the portion of U.S. 90 between the intersection of North 3rd Street in Baker County and the Nassau County line as "State Representative/Circuit Judge Hon. John J. Crews, Jr., Memorial Highway" and directs the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to erect suitable markers for the designation.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:
The bill will have an insignificant impact on state government expenditures.

JUMP TO SUMMARY ANALYSIS RELEVANT INFORMATION BILL HISTORY

ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill requires FDOT to erect suitable markers to designate the portion of U.S. 90 between the intersection of North 3rd Street in Baker County and the Nassau County line as "State Representative/Circuit Judge Hon. John J. Crews, Jr., Memorial Highway." (Section 1).

FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:

STATE GOVERNMENT:

The bill will have an insignificant negative impact on state government expenditures. In 2025, FDOT estimated a cost of $2,400 per designation for the appropriate markers, which provides for two signs per designation at $1,200 per sign.[1] This cost can be absorbed within existing FDOT resources.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

Legislative Designation of Transportation Facilities
The Legislature may designate a transportation facility, such as a bridge or a portion of a road, for honorary or memorial purposes or to distinguish a particular facility. Legislative designations do not officially change the existing names of facilities and may not require local governments or private parties to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone number system listing.[2]

[1] Email from Jack Rogers, Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Transportation, RE: Road Designations Review (Feb. 13, 2025).
[2] S. 334.071(1), F.S.

Unless specifically provided by law, public facilities such as roads, bridges, and other similar facilities may not be named for any living person.[3]

Transportation Facility Markers

Following a legislative designation, FDOT is required to place markers at the termini or intersections specified for each highway segment or bridge designated and may place other markers it deems as appropriate.[4] Before markers may be erected, the appropriate city or county commission must pass a resolution in support of the particular honorary designation. If the designated bridge or road segment is located in more than one city or county, there must be resolutions supporting the designation from each affected local government before markers may be erected.[5]

State Representative/Circuit Judge Hon. John J. Crews, Jr., Memorial Highway

The Hon. John J. Crews Jr. was a state legislator who served Baker County in the Florida House of Representatives from 1953 to 1966. He suffered two heart attacks while in office, including once while he was acting Speaker of the House. Crews was also a lawyer who served as a judge in the 8th Judicial Circuit of Gainesville.

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee			Keating	Dallas
Commerce Committee				

[3] S. 267.062(1), F.S.
[4] S. 334.071(2), F.S.
[5] S. 334.071(3), F.S.

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to transportation facility designations; providing an honorary designation of a certain transportation facility in a specified county; directing the Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. State Representative/Circuit Judge Hon. John J. Crews, Jr., Memorial Highway designated; Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers.—

(1) That portion of U.S. 90 between the intersection of North 3rd Street in Baker County and the Nassau County line is designated as "State Representative/Circuit Judge Hon. John J. Crews, Jr., Memorial Highway."

(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating State Representative/Circuit Judge Hon. John J. Crews, Jr., Memorial Highway as described in subsection (1).

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: HB 1075	**COMPANION BILL:** SB 1014 (Mayfield)
TITLE: Municipal Utility Connections	**LINKED BILLS:** None
SPONSOR(S): Sirois	**RELATED BILLS:** None

Committee References

Economic Infrastructure ➤ Intergovernmental Affairs ➤ Commerce

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:
The bill requires a municipality to extend utility service to other municipalities or property owners located outside its municipal boundaries if: (1) the municipal utility has sufficient capacity to serve without material impact on service to existing customers; and (2) the requesting municipality or property owner agrees to pay all applicable rates, fees, and charges under current law (including surcharges). Otherwise, service extension is by agreement, as provided in current law. The bill clarifies that it does not prohibit a municipality from imposing reasonable fees necessary to fund system expansion required for a new connection.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:
None

JUMP TO SUMMARY ANALYSIS RELEVANT INFORMATION BILL HISTORY

ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill establishes requirements related to the provision of municipal utility services to municipalities or property owners outside the municipal boundaries.

The bill requires a municipality that operates utility services to allow another municipality or property owner outside its municipal boundaries to connect with or use its utility services if each of the following conditions is met:

- The utility system has sufficient system capacity[1] to serve the requested connection without materially impairing service to existing utility customers.
- The requesting municipality or property owner agrees to pay all applicable rates and charges authorized by law.[2] (Section 1)

The bill provides that where the conditions above are not met, connection by another municipality or a property outside municipal boundaries is by agreement. (Section 1)

[1] "Capacity" in utility services refers to the maximum amount or volume of product (electricity, water, gas) that can be provided at a specific point in time under specific conditions. *See e.g.*, U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Electricity explained: Electricity generation, capacity, and sales in the United States*, https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/electricity/electricity-in-the-us-generation-capacity-and-sales.php (last visited Jan. 16, 2026).

[2] The requesting municipality or property owner must agree to pay all rates and charges imposed by the municipal utility in accordance with s. 180.191, F.S.

The bill provides that a municipality must, within 30 days after receipt of a connection application from a municipality or property owner outside its municipal boundaries, make a written capacity determination. The determination must be based on generally accepted engineering standards and current system data. (Section 1)

The bill establishes certain requirements where the municipality denies a connection request. Specifically:

- If the connection request is denied due to lack of capacity, the denial must include specific engineering findings identifying the deficient components of the system.
- A requesting municipality or property owner denied connection with or use of utility services may appeal the capacity determination to the circuit court in the county in which the municipality or property is located. The court must review the determination de novo.[3]
- If the court finds that the municipality's denial was in violation of the provisions of the bill, the court must order the connection and award the prevailing party reasonable attorney fees and court costs, unless the municipality providing utility services demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that the denial was based on a good faith, reasonable engineering determination of insufficient capacity. (Section 1)

The bill provides that a private company or corporation granted a privilege or franchise by a municipality to operate utility services may allow connection by another municipality or property owner by agreement. (Section 1)

The bill clarifies that it does not prohibit a municipality from imposing reasonable impact fees, connection fees, or infrastructure contributions necessary to fund system expansion required for a new connection. (Section 1)

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2026. (Section 2)

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

Local Government Authority

Pursuant to s. 2(b), Art. VIII of the State Constitution, municipalities have the governmental, corporate, and proprietary powers to enable them to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions, and render municipal services. Municipalities may exercise any power for municipal purposes, except when expressly prohibited by law.[4] The legislative body of each municipality has the power to enact legislation on any subject upon which the state Legislature may act with certain exceptions.[5] Under their home rule power and as otherwise provided or limited by law or agreement, municipalities may provide utilities to citizens and entities within the municipality's corporate boundaries, in unincorporated areas, and even in other municipalities.

Municipal Utility Services

Many municipalities own and operate electric utilities and natural gas utilities and govern the operation of those utilities through ordinance, code, or policies. Currently, there are 35 municipal electric utilities in the state and 27

[3] "De novo," is a Latin term that means "anew," "from the beginning," or "afresh." A court that hears a case de novo decides the issues without reference to any conclusions or findings made by a lower or previous court. *See e.g.*, Cornell Law School, Legal Information Institute, *de novo*, https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/de_novo (last visited Jan. 16, 2026).

[4] Section 166.021(2), F.S., provides that any activity or power which may be exercised by the state or its political subdivisions is considered a municipal purpose.

[5] Pursuant to s. 166.021(3), F.S., a municipality may not enact legislation on the following: the subjects of annexation, merger, and exercise of extraterritorial power, which require general law or special law; any subject expressly prohibited by the constitution; any subject expressly preempted to state or county government by the constitution or by general law; and any subject preempted to a county pursuant to a county charter adopted under the authority of the State constitution.

municipally owned natural gas utilities.[6] Municipal electric and natural gas utility rates are not directly regulated by the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC), however, the PSC does have jurisdiction over municipal electric utilities for matters related to rate structure, power plant transmission line site certification, general reporting jurisdiction, service territory and territory disputes, energy efficiency reporting, ten-year site plans, reporting on system hardening and resiliency, reporting on net metering, audits related to regulatory assessment fees, monitoring renewable energy, reporting on facilities inspection and vegetation management, and ensuring a reliable, coordinated power grid.[7] Many of these utilities provide service to customers located outside of the municipality's boundaries.

Municipalities are authorized by general law to provide water and sewer utility services.[8] With respect to public works projects, including water and sewer utility services,[9] municipalities may extend and execute their corporate powers outside of their corporate limits as "desirable or necessary for the promotion of the public health, safety and welfare."[10] A municipality may not extend or apply these corporate powers within the corporate limits of another municipality.[11] In general, however, local governments may enter into mutually advantageous agreements to provide services or facilities to other localities.[12] Further, the law specifically authorizes a municipality to negotiate agreement to terms and conditions upon which any other municipality and the owners of lands outside its corporate limits or within the limits of another municipality may connect with its utility services.[13] Municipal water and sewer utility systems are exempt from PSC jurisdiction.

Florida law authorizes a municipality that operates a water or sewer utility outside of its municipal boundaries to impose higher rates, fees, and charges on customers receiving service outside of its corporate boundaries compared those imposed on customers within its boundaries. The municipality can accomplish this in two ways:

- It may add a surcharge of up to 25 percent of the rates, fees, and charges imposed on customers within its boundaries. This mechanism does not require a public hearing.[14]
- It may set separate rates, fees, and charges for customers outside its boundaries based on the same factors used to set rates for customers within its boundaries. It may then add a surcharge of up to 25 percent of these charges, provided that the total of all such rates, fees, and charges for service to customers outside its boundaries may not exceed the total charges to customers within its boundaries by more than 50 percent for corresponding service. Rates set in this manner require a public hearing at which all users served or to be served by the water or sewer utilities and all other interested persons will have an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed rates.[15]

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[6] Florida Public Service Commission, *Facts and Figures of the Florida Utility Industry (2025)*, at pages 1, 12, available at https://www.floridapsc.com/pscfiles/website-files/PDF/Publications/Reports/General/FactsAndFigures/April%202025.pdf (last visited Jan. 16, 2025).

[7] Presentation on *Florida Public Power*, Florida Municipal Electric Association (Feb. 9, 2023), slide 3, available at https://www.flhouse.gov/Sections/Documents/publications.aspx?CommitteeId=3226&PublicationType=Committees&DocumentType=All&SessionId=99 (last visited Jan. 16, 2026).

[8] Pursuant to s. 180.06, F.S., a municipality may "provide water and alternative water supplies;" "provide for the collection and disposal of sewage, including wastewater reuse, and other liquid wastes;" and "construct reservoirs, sewerage systems, trunk sewers, intercepting sewers, pumping stations, wells, siphons, intakes, pipelines, distribution systems, purification works, collection systems, treatment and disposal works" to accomplish these purposes.

[9] Other public works projects authorized under s. 180.06, F.S., include alternative water supplies, maintenance of water flow and bodies of water for sanitary purposes, garbage collection and disposal, airports, hospitals, jails, golf courses, gas plants and distribution systems, and related facilities.

[10] S. 180.02(2), F.S.

[11] *Id.*

[12] *See* s. 163.01, F.S.

[13] S. 180.19, F.S.

[14] S. 180.191(1)(a), F.S.

[15] S. 180.191(1)(b), F.S.

Trial Courts

The State Constitution establishes a two-tier system of trial courts granting distinct jurisdiction to county courts and to circuit courts.[16] County courts have limited jurisdiction set by statute and hear matters such as traffic offenses, landlord-tenant disputes, small claims cases up to $8,000, misdemeanor criminal matters, local government ordinance violations, and monetary disputes up to $50,000.[17] There are 67 county courts, one for each county in the state.[18] Circuit courts, meanwhile, have general jurisdiction to hear all matters not within the county courts' jurisdiction, including dissolution of marriage and other "family law" proceedings, felony criminal matters, juvenile delinquency and dependency proceedings, probate proceedings, guardianship matters, and monetary disputes over $50,000.[19] There are 20 circuit courts in Florida, one for each judicial circuit.[20]

RECENT LEGISLATION:

YEAR	BILL #/SUBJECT	HOUSE/*SENATE* SPONSOR(S)	OTHER INFORMATION
2025	CS/CS/HB 1523 - Utility Services	Busatta	Died in Senate

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee			Keating	Rubottom
Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee				
Commerce Committee				

[16] Art. V, ss. 5 and 6, Fla. Const.
[17] Office of the State Courts Administrator, *Trial Courts – County,* https://www.flcourts.gov/Courts-System/Court-Structure/Trial-Courts-County (last visited Jan. 16, 2026).
[18] *Id.*
[19] Office of the State Courts Administrator, *Trial Courts - Circuit,* https://www.flcourts.gov/Courts-System/Court-Structure/Trial-Courts-Circuit (last visited Jan. 16, 2026).
[20] *Id.*

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to municipal utility connections; amending s. 180.19, F.S.; requiring municipalities that operate utility services to allow other municipalities and property owners outside its municipal boundaries to connect with and use its utility services under specified conditions; requiring municipalities to make certain determinations within a specified timeframe; providing for appeal of such determinations; providing for the award of attorney fees and court costs; providing that municipalities are not liable for such fees and costs under certain conditions; providing construction; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 180.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

180.19 Use by other municipalities and by individuals outside corporate limits.—

(1)(a) A municipality that operates utility services ~~which constructs any works as are~~ authorized under ~~by~~ this chapter shall allow a~~, may permit any other~~ municipality or property owner ~~and the owners or association of owners of lots or lands~~

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

outside of its municipal boundaries ~~corporate limits or within the limits of any other municipality,~~ to connect with or use the utility services if:

1. The utility system has sufficient treatment, transmission, and distribution capacity to serve the requested connection without materially impairing service to existing utility customers; and

2. The requesting municipality or property owner agrees to pay all applicable rates, fees, and charges authorized under s. 180.191.

(b) If the conditions in paragraph (a) are not met, connection with or use of the utility services are ~~utilities mentioned in this chapter~~ upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed between the ~~such~~ municipalities or the municipality and the property owner~~, and the owners or association of owners of such outside lots or lands~~.

(2)(a) A municipality that operates utility services must make a written capacity determination within 30 days after receipt of a completed application for connection from a municipality or property owner under subsection (1). The determination must be based on generally accepted engineering standards and current system data. A denial of connection with or use of utility services due to a lack of capacity must include specific engineering findings identifying the deficient components of the system.

(b) A requesting municipality or property owner denied connection with or use of utility services may appeal the capacity determination to the circuit court in the county in which the municipality or property is located. The court must review the determination de novo.

(c) If the court finds that the municipality refused to allow the connection in violation of this subsection, the court must order the connection and award the prevailing party reasonable attorney fees and court costs to be paid by the municipality operating the utility services.

(d) The municipality operating the utility services is not liable for attorney fees or court costs under paragraph (c) if the municipality demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that the denial was based on a good faith, reasonable engineering determination of insufficient capacity.

(3) ~~(2)~~ Any private company or corporation organized to accomplish the purposes of ~~set forth in~~ this chapter that~~, which~~ has been granted a privilege or franchise by a municipality to operate utility services~~,~~ may allow a municipality or property owner ~~permit the owners or association of owners of lots or lands~~ outside of the boundaries of the granting ~~said~~ municipality ~~granting said privilege or franchise, or other municipality,~~ to connect with and use the utility services ~~operated by the said private company or corporation~~ upon such terms as may be agreed between the ~~said~~ private company or

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

corporation and the ~~owners or association of owners of said lots or lands or the said~~ municipality or property owner.

(4) This section does not prohibit a municipality from imposing reasonable impact fees, connection fees, or infrastructure contributions necessary to fund system expansion required for a new connection.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.