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H.B. 251*
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by Senate Transportation

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Pavliga

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SUMMARY

- Designates the “Patrolman James R. Wert Memorial Highway.”
- Updates the name of one of the organizations receiving contributions from the “ALS Awareness” license plate to “ALS Association.”

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Memorial Highway

The bill designates the following highway and authorizes the Director of Transportation to erect suitable markers along the highway indicating its name:

Designated Name	“Patrolman James R. Wert Memorial Highway” ¹
Highway	The northbound and southbound lanes of State Route (S.R.) 88 between Loomis Parkway and S.R. 14, in Portage County
Other Information	Patrolman James R. Wert was killed on January 31, 1981, after he was struck by a drunk driver on S.R. 88 while on duty. He worked for the Ravenna Police Department and previously served as a U.S. Army Military Police Officer.

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the Senate Transportation Committee appeared in the Senate Journal. Note that the legislative history may be incomplete.

¹ R.C. 5534.423.

Specialty license plate

The bill updates the name of one of the organizations receiving contributions from the “ALS Awareness” license plate to reflect the organization’s name change. Specifically, it changes the name “ALS Association Northern Ohio Chapter” to “ALS Association.”

The other organization receiving contributions from the “ALS Awareness” specialty license plate also recently had its name updated to reflect its name change to “ALS United Ohio, Incorporated.” The contributions given to both organizations must be used to discover treatments and a cure for ALS, and to serve, advocate for, and empower people affected by ALS to live their lives to the fullest. The bill does not change the agreement between the two organizations or the use of the contributions.²

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	08-01-23
Reported, H. Transportation	10-02-23
Re-referred, H. Rules & Reference	12-07-23
Reported, H. Rules & Reference	12-12-23
Passed House (92-0)	12-13-23
Reported, S. Transportation	---

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² R.C. 4501.21 and 4503.725. See the LSC [Final Analysis for H.B. 269 \(PDF\)](#), which is available on the General Assembly’s website: legislature.ohio.gov.