

HCS HB 245 -- MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

SPONSOR: Marsh

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Tourism and Cultural Affairs by a vote of 18 to 0.

This substitute names a 13.5 mile portion of U. S. Highway 60 (James River Freeway) from U. S. Highway 65 west to State Route 360, northwest to Interstate 44 as the "Korean War Veterans' Memorial Freeway." The substitute requires that costs related to signs along the freeway be paid for through private sources.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that changing the name from the James River Freeway to the Korean War Veterans' Memorial Freeway will announce to the world that Missouri is saying "thank you" to all those who served in the Korean War. Everyone who sees the signs along the freeway will be reminded of the sacrifices made by the armed forces during the Korean War. More than 56,000 military personnel were killed and more than 100,000 were injured in Korea. It is out of respect for them that supporters are asking to rename the freeway.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Marsh; Lt. Col. Claire Eike (Ret.), James Hon, Denzil Batson, John Girth, Frank Wiles, Carroll A. Garrison, Kenneth Batzelle, and Bob Pyeatt, all members of the Korean War Veterans Association, Springfield, Missouri, Chapter 8; and Ronald Mark.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Alice Hurley, Legislative Analyst