

HB 879 -- FAMOUS MISSOURIAN HIGHWAY DESIGNATION

SPONSOR: Cookson

This bill establishes an application process for a the designation of a highway to honor a famous Missourian. To seek a designation an organization or person must petition the Department of Transportation by submitting:

- (1) An application describing the not more than two-mile segment of highway for which designation is sought and the proposed name of the highway. The application must include the name of a current state legislator, who will sponsor the designation;
- (2) A list of at least 100 signatures of individuals supporting the designation; and
- (3) A fee as determined by the department to cover the costs of construction and maintenance of the proposed sign.

The bill sets requirements for being considered a famous Missourian.

The documents and fees are to be submitted to the department no later than November 1 to be approved or denied by the Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight during the next legislative session. The department must provide public notice of any proposed highway designation. If the designation is not approved by the joint committee, 97% of the application fee is to be refunded to the requesting organization or person.

Two highway signs will be placed for each highway designation, unless the designated highway crosses two or more county lines, then the department may give consideration to additional signs. No portion of a highway may be named for more than one event, organization or person. Any signs placed for a highway designation will be maintained for 20 years. After such period, the signs may be removed by the department and the highway may be designated for another purpose. An organization or person may request a designation be retained for an additional 20-year period by submitting an application and fees and no earlier than one year before the designation's expiration date and not later than one year after the expiration date.

This section applies to highway designations sought after Aug. 28, 2017.