Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Transportation Committee

HJM 4016

Brief Description: Requesting to commence proceedings in naming state route number 902 the Gold Star Memorial Highway.

Sponsors: Representatives Riccelli, Volz, Graham, Fey, Lovick, Valdez, Maycumber, Leavitt, Tarleton, Shea and Ormsby.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Naming State Route 902 the Gold Star Memorial Highway.

Hearing Date: 1/30/20

Staff: Megan McPhaden (786-7114)

Background:

The Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC) is responsible for naming state transportation facilities, including highways and bridges. It is the WSTC's stated policy that a naming must commemorate a person or group of people who significantly contributed to the state or nation's well-being. A facility naming must be thoroughly and deliberately conducted and must be widely supported by people from the area.

There are two processes for initiating the naming of a state transportation facility:

- 1. The Legislature may pass a Joint Memorial requesting the WSTC name or rename a facility. Following enactment of a Joint Memorial, the WSTC holds a public hearing as soon as possible to allow for public input prior to taking action.
- 2. The Legislature, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), state and local government entities, citizen organizations, and any person may contact the WSTC establishing their interest in a naming. The requesting party must provide sufficient evidence indicating community support and acceptance of the proposal. This evidence may include a letter of support from the state or federal legislator representing the area encompassing the facility to be renamed. Other evidence that may provide proof of

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community support includes a resolution passed by other elected bodies in the impacted area, support by the WSDOT, and supportive action from a local organization such as a chamber of commerce.

After the WSTC takes final action, the WSDOT designs and installs the appropriate signs.

Summary of Bill:

The Senate and the House of Representatives request that the WSTC commence proceedings to name State Route 902 the Gold Star Memorial Highway.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 24, 2020.