



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB2508

Introduced 1/28/2020, by Sen. Paul Schimpf

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

605 ILCS 127/15

Amends the Heroes Way Designation Program Act. Provides that any person who is related by marriage, adoption, or consanguinity within the second degree to a first responder who was killed in the line of duty, and who was a resident of the State at the time he or she was killed in the line of duty, may apply for a designation allowing the placement of an honorary sign alongside roads. Provides that one of the application requirements may be a signed form from an individual or organization that contains the permission of a family member (in place of a signed form certifying that the applicant is related by marriage, adoption, or consanguinity within the second degree to the member of the United States Armed Forces or the first responder). Requires the application for an honorary sign to include signed approval from the Representative and Senator of the district where the designation is located. Makes conforming changes. Effective January 1, 2021.

LRB101 16081 LNS 65444 b

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Heroes Way Designation Program Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 15 as follows:

6 (605 ILCS 127/15)

7 Sec. 15. Heroes Way Designation Program.

8 (a) Any person who is related by marriage, adoption, or  
9 consanguinity within the second degree to a member of the  
10 United States Armed Forces or a first responder, including a  
11 police officer, firefighter, or EMS provider, who was killed in  
12 action while performing active military duty with the Armed  
13 Forces or was killed in the line of duty, and who was a  
14 resident of this State at the time he or she was killed in  
15 action or killed in the line of duty, may apply for a  
16 designation allowing the placement of an honorary sign  
17 alongside roads designated under the provisions of this Act.

18 (b) The honorary signs may be placed upon interstate or  
19 state-numbered highway interchanges or upon bridges or  
20 segments of highway under the jurisdiction of the Department  
21 according to the provisions of this Section, and any applicable  
22 federal and State limitations or conditions on highway signage,  
23 including location and spacing.

1 (c) Any person described under subsection (a) of this  
2 Section who desires to have an interstate or state-numbered  
3 highway interchange or bridge or segment of highway under the  
4 jurisdiction of the Department designated after his or her  
5 family member shall petition the Department by submitting an  
6 application in a form prescribed by the Secretary. The form  
7 shall include the amount of the fee under subsection (d) of  
8 this Section. The application must meet the following  
9 requirements:

10 (1) describe the interstate or state-numbered highway  
11 interchange or bridge or segment of highway under the  
12 jurisdiction of the Department for which the designation is  
13 sought and the proposed name of the interchange, bridge, or  
14 relevant segment of highway. ~~The application shall include~~  
15 ~~the name of at least one current member of the General~~  
16 ~~Assembly who will sponsor the designation.~~ The application  
17 may contain written testimony for support of the  
18 designation;

19 (2) a signed form, prescribed by the Secretary,  
20 certifying that the applicant is related by marriage,  
21 adoption, or consanguinity within the second degree to the  
22 member of the United States Armed Forces or the first  
23 responder who was killed in action, or a signed form from  
24 an individual or organization that contains the permission  
25 of a family member; ~~and~~

26 (3) the name of the member of the United States Armed

1           Forces or the first responder for whom the designation is  
2           sought must be listed on the National Gold Star Family  
3           Registry; and ~~—~~

4                   (4) include a signed approval from the Representative  
5                   and Senator of the district where the designation is  
6                   located.

7           (d) After determining that the petitioner meets all of the  
8           application requirements of subsection (c), and upon ~~the~~  
9           ~~Department shall submit a recommendation containing the~~  
10          ~~proposed designations to the sponsor in the General Assembly~~  
11          ~~named in the application. The Department shall be notified upon~~  
12          ~~the approval or denial of a proposed designation. Upon the~~  
13          approval of a proposed designation, the petitioner shall submit  
14          a fee to be determined by the Secretary to cover the costs of  
15          constructing and maintaining the proposed signs on the  
16          interchange, bridge, or segment of highway. The fee shall not  
17          exceed the cost of constructing and maintaining each sign.

18          (e) The Department shall give notice of any proposed  
19          designation under this Section on the Department's official  
20          public website.

21          (f) Two signs shall be erected for each interchange,  
22          bridge, or segment of highway designation processed under this  
23          Section.

24          (g) No interchange, bridge, or segment of highway may be  
25          named or designated under this Section if it carries an  
26          existing designation. A designated member of the United States

1 Armed Forces shall not be eligible for more than one  
2 interchange, bridge, or segment of highway designation under  
3 this Section.

4 (h) All moneys received by the Department for the  
5 construction and maintenance of interchange, bridge, or  
6 segment of highway signs shall be deposited in the "Road Fund"  
7 of the State treasury.

8 (i) The documents and fees required under this Section  
9 shall be submitted to the Department.

10 (Source: P.A. 99-802, eff. 1-1-17.)

11 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January  
12 1, 2021.