

# Legislative Analysis



## CAPTAIN JOSEPH M. LIEDEL MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

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**House Bill 4845 as reported from committee**

**Sponsor: Rep. William Bruck**

**Committee: Transportation, Mobility and Infrastructure**

**Complete to 10-14-23**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

*(Enacted as Public Act 5 of 2024)*

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 4845 would amend the Michigan Memorial Highway Act to designate the portion of highway M-125, also known as South Dixie Highway, in Monroe County beginning at the intersection with East Dunbar Road and continuing south to the intersection with East Albain Road as the “Captain Joseph M. Liedel Memorial Highway.”

Proposed MCL 250.1103a

### BACKGROUND:

According to committee testimony and the National Fallen Firefighter’s Foundation, Joseph M. Liedel was born on May 5, 1972, the only child of James Michael Liedel and Cynthia Trowbridge Marcero. Joe attended Monroe High School, graduating in 1990. After graduation, he took a position with the Ford Motor Company and later assisted his mother at American Real Estate Appraisal. However, Joe’s passion was to follow in his father’s footsteps as a firefighter.

Joseph Liedel joined the Monroe Charter Township Fire Department as a member of the Fire Explorer program. When he was old enough, he joined the ranks of the Monroe Township firefighters. During his service time he responded to thousands of calls in Monroe County. Over his 28-year career, Joe served as a firefighter and lieutenant, and he became captain in April 2019. He, along with other Monroe firefighters, traveled to New York City to assist at Ground Zero following the 9-11 terrorist attacks.

On July 31, 2020, leaving his home to respond on an emergency medical dispatch, Captain Liedel suffered a stroke before he could reach his vehicle. Firefighters responding to his residence provided care. He was transported to the hospital for intensive care. On August 23, 2020, Captain Joseph M. Liedel died. He was 48 years old.

Dedicating a portion of M-125 in Monroe County would be an appropriate way to honor Captain Liedel’s life, his dedication to his community, and his sacrifice to our state.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

Section 2 of the Michigan Memorial Highway Act indicates that the state transportation department shall provide for the erection of suitable markers indicating the name of the highway only “when sufficient private contributions are received to completely cover the

cost of erecting and maintaining those markers.” As a result, the bill has no state or local fiscal impact.

**POSITIONS:**

The Department of Transportation indicated a neutral position on the bill. (9-26-23)

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