

HOUSE BILL 3006

By Cooper B

AN ACT to designate certain highways and roads as "The Blues Trail".

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways to honor certain aspects of Tennessee's heritage and culture that exemplify the best of life in Tennessee over its history; and

WHEREAS, designating certain highways and roads in Shelby County and Memphis as "The Blues Trail" will honor Tennessee's musical heritage and culture while strengthening heritage tourism and making a significant economic impact; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the segment of U.S. Highway 61 beginning at the Tennessee-Mississippi border north on Third Street to Jackson Avenue connecting to Interstate 40 West to cross the Mississippi River over the Hernando Desoto Bridge to the Tennessee-Arkansas border is hereby designated the "The Blues Trail" as a lasting tribute to one aspect of Tennessee's musical and cultural heritage.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the segments of highways described in Section 1 as the "The Blues Trail."

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation from non-state funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 6. The appellation "The Blues Trail" provided for in this act is for honorary purposes only and nothing contained herein shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any address or the governmental system for assigning addresses in any county, municipality, or other governmental entity affected by this act.

SECTION 7. The commissioner of transportation is directed to seek any necessary approvals from federal authorities to permit designating Third Street from Crump Boulevard to Jackson Avenue as a Tennessee extension of U.S. Highway 61 as U.S. Highway 61(B) in order to reconnect the historic route of U.S. Highway 61 through downtown Memphis and its historic and cultural destinations along The Blues Trail.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.