AN ACT to create 84.101 of the statutes; relating to: markers for military memorial highways and bridges.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, certain highway routes and bridges have been designated and marked to memorialize, commemorate, or recognize certain individuals, groups, or events. Certain highways and bridges may only be marked as memorial highways and bridges by the Department of Transportation (DOT) if interested parties donate sufficient contributions to cover the costs of erecting and maintaining the memorial markers.

This bill requires DOT to bear the cost of erecting and maintaining markers for all military memorial highways and bridges on state trunk highways.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 84.101 of the statutes is created to read:

84.101 Military memorial highways and bridges. (1) The department shall bear the cost of erecting markers that designate any state trunk highway or bridge on the state trunk highway system as a memorial that is associated with the
armed forces or any branch or unit of the armed forces, any specific soldier or soldiers, any armed forces award or honor, or any war or armed conflict, or that is otherwise military in nature.

(2) The department shall maintain all markers that designate any state trunk highway or bridge on the state trunk highway system as a memorial that is associated with the armed forces or any branch or unit of the armed forces, any specific soldier or soldiers, any armed forces award or honor, or any war or armed conflict, or that is otherwise military in nature, and, notwithstanding ss. 84.1028 (2), 84.1029 (2), 84.1031 (2), 84.1034 (2), 84.1036 (2), 84.1039 (2), and 84.1041 (2), the department shall bear the cost of all such maintenance.