

EDWARD S. OSIENSKI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
24th District



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF DELAWARE
411 LEGISLATIVE AVENUE
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

COMMITTEES
Transportation, Land Use &
Infrastructure, Chair
Labor, Vice Chair
Education
Health & Human Development
Public Safety & Homeland Security
Veterans Affairs

Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

5.2.18

Chair Osienski called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Members present included Reps. Jaques, Brady, Collins, and Briggs King.

Chair Osienski called upon Rep. Brady, the prime sponsor of the bill, to introduce **HB 382, AN ACT TO RENAME THE DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WELCOME CENTER ON INTERSTATE 95 LOCATED AT 530 JFK MEMORIAL HIGHWAY NEWARK, DE 19702 IN HONOR OF THE BIDENS.**

Rep. Brady stated that this bill would name the welcome center in the Interstate 95 travel plaza in honor of the Biden family for the decades of public service this particular family has provided for Delaware and the United States. He added that this welcome center does not currently have a distinction, and it has been customary in other states to designate similar public spaces after a public official or historical figure associated with public service in a particular state.

Chair Osienski opened the floor to questions from committee members.

Rep. Briggs King asked for more clarification about the current name of the welcome center as she thought it was previously named to honor President Kennedy.

Rep. Brady responded that he has been in communication with the Delaware Department of Transportation who said that welcome center is not named after President Kennedy, but rather that the highway itself is designated in honor of President Kennedy. He added that the bill does not include a fiscal note because new signage would be routine maintenance included in the travel plaza's next budget cycle.

Rep. Jaques asked if naming this welcome center after the Biden family was necessary as there are already several public buildings in Delaware, including the Joseph R. Biden train station in Wilmington, that have been designated in honor of members of the Biden family. He added that the committee could consider other options such as designating the travel plaza in honor of Gold Star families or signers of the Declaration of Independence from Delaware.

Rep. Brady recognized that several public spaces in Delaware have been named in honor of specific members of the Biden family, and he responded that this bill specifically states that the welcome center

would be named in honor of the Biden family as a whole. He also mentioned that several public spaces in Delaware including the Route 202 highway have been designated in honor of Gold Star families.

Chair Osienski opened the floor to public comment.

Nicole Majeski, Deputy Secretary of the Delaware Department of Transportation, stated that the department had no objections to HB 382.

A motion was made by Rep. Briggs King and seconded by Rep. Jaques to table HB 382; motion carried. Yes=4 (Chair Osienski, Reps. Jaques, Briggs King, Collins); No=1 (Rep. Brady); Absent=1 (Rep. Carson).

Chair Osienski adjourned the meeting at 1:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Nicole Jacoby

In attendance:

1. Nicole Majeski – Delaware Department of Transportation