

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1795

Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY HORNAMAN, BISHOP, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAUSER, COHEN, CONKLIN, CREIGHTON, EVERETT, FLECK, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HESS, W. KELLER, KENNEY, KULA, MAJOR, MANTZ, MARKOSEK, METCALFE, MOYER, NAILOR, M. O'BRIEN, PALLONE, PAYNE, PERRY, PETRONE, PRESTON, PYLE, RAMALEY, RAPP, RAYMOND, READSHAW, ROAE, SAINATO, SAYLOR, SHAPIRO, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, SURRA, R. TAYLOR, VEREB, WATSON, J. WHITE, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD, SCAVELLO, MILLARD, MANN, GRUCELA, MAHONEY, VULAKOVICH, MARSHALL, MURT, REICHLEY, FREEMAN, DALLY, HARHART, MILNE, REED, GOODMAN, DENLINGER, BARRAR AND M. KELLER, AUGUST 10, 2007

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, SEPTEMBER 17, 2007

AN ACT

1 Designating the Powell Avenue Bridge on State Route 299 in
2 Millcreek TOWNSHIP, ERIE COUNTY, Pennsylvania, as the Staff <—
3 Sergeant Jeremy R. Horton Memorial Bridge.

4 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Jeremy R. Horton was born June 16,
5 1979, in Erie, Pennsylvania, to Timothy J. Horton of Fairview
6 TOWNSHIP, ERIE COUNTY, Pennsylvania, and Gretchen S. <—
7 (Wittenburg) Horton of Millcreek TOWNSHIP, ERIE COUNTY, <—
8 Pennsylvania; and

9 WHEREAS, S. Sgt. Horton graduated from Strong Vincent High
10 School IN ERIE, ERIE COUNTY, in 1997 where he had met the love <—
11 of his life, Cristie Schock; and

12 WHEREAS, S. Sgt. Horton enlisted in the United States Army in
13 November 1997 as an infantryman, after Basic Training, AIT and

1 Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia; and

2 WHEREAS, S. Sgt. Horton and Ms. Schock were wed July 6, 1998,

3 and posted to Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and

4 WHEREAS, S. Sgt. Horton rose rapidly through the ranks,

5 serving as a SAW gunner, grenadier and Fire Team Leader in 2nd

6 Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, the "Devils in

7 Baggy Pants"; and

8 WHEREAS, S. Sgt. Horton was also an avid free-fall sport

9 parachutist, played the drums and was proud of his band, the

10 "Welfare Babies"; and

11 WHEREAS, In January 2002, S. Sgt. Horton and his wife arrived

12 in Germany, where he was first assigned as a team leader and

13 later squad leader in Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 6th

14 Infantry, Baumholder; and

15 WHEREAS, S. Sgt. Horton was promoted to Staff Sergeant in

16 March 2003, and deployed with 2nd Brigade, 1AD to Iraq for

17 Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

18 WHEREAS, S. Sgt. Horton joined Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion,

19 6th Infantry in June while deployed, serving initially in the

20 commander's personal security detachment before being selected

21 as 1st Platoon's weapons squad leader; and

22 WHEREAS, S. Sgt. Horton's element operated in the Jisr Diyala

23 sector and secured the Tuwaytha Nuclear Research Facility; and

24 WHEREAS, In October, S. Sgt. Horton volunteered to be Alpha

25 Section Leader, commanding his first Bradley Fighting Vehicle;

26 and

27 WHEREAS, S. Sgt. Horton made the ultimate sacrifice of giving

28 his life for his country in the line of duty while serving near

29 Al Iskandariyah, Iraq, when an improvised vehicle-borne

30 explosive device exploded on May 21, 2004, while his convoy was

1 stopped for another roadside bomb; and

2 WHEREAS, S. Sgt. Horton was posthumously awarded the Bronze
3 Star and Purple Heart.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Staff Sergeant Jeremy R. Horton Memorial Bridge.

7 (a) Designation.--The Powell Avenue Bridge on State Route
8 299 in ~~Middlecreek~~ MILLCREEK TOWNSHIP, ERIE COUNTY, <—
9 Pennsylvania, known as the Powell Avenue Bridge, is redesignated
10 the Staff Sergeant Jeremy R. Horton Memorial Bridge.

11 (b) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and
12 maintain appropriate signs displaying the name Staff Sergeant
13 Jeremy R. Horton Memorial Bridge on both ends of the bridge.

14 Section 2. Effective date.

15 This act shall take effect in 60 days.