
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1281 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY ROSSI, CAUSER, JAMES, KINSEY, HADDOCK, BERNSTINE,
STAATS, KAUFFMAN, SMITH, IRVIN AND NEILSON, MAY 31, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, MAY 31, 2023

AN ACT

1 Designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 36247, carrying
2 Pennsylvania Route 711 over Loyalhanna Creek in Ligonier
3 Township, Westmoreland County, as the Sergeant Alvin P. Carey
4 and Private John C. Ewing Medal of Honor Memorial Bridge.

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

7 Section 1. Sergeant Alvin P. Carey and Private John C. Ewing
8 Medal of Honor Memorial Bridge.

9 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds and declares as
10 follows:

11 (1) Alvin P. Carey was born August 16, 1916, in
12 Lycippus, Westmoreland County.

13 (2) Mr. Carey graduated from Ligonier High School in
14 1935.

15 (3) Mr. Carey enlisted in the United States Army in
16 January 1941, shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

17 (4) Sergeant Carey landed at Utah Beach in Normandy on
18 June 7, 1944, with the 2nd Infantry Division. Initially
19 wounded in action and awarded the Purple Heart, he returned

1 to the front lines to fight the Germans in Brest, France.
2 While at Brest, Sergeant Carey was mortally wounded after
3 crawling up a fire-riddled hill alone to take on a German
4 pillbox. Due to his brave actions, the Allied soldiers were
5 able to quickly take over the pillbox, leading to the end of
6 Axis control in France.

7 (5) John C. Ewing was born March 4, 1843, in Donegal
8 Township, Westmoreland County.

9 (6) Mr. Ewing received no formal education and was self-
10 taught.

11 (7) Mr. Ewing volunteered for service with the
12 Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry 211th on September 12, 1864.

13 (8) Private Ewing and his regiment took part in the
14 final assaults on Confederate positions in Petersburg,
15 Virginia. On April 2, 1865, he engaged in hostile hand-to-
16 hand combat, during which he captured the flags at the Battle
17 of Five Forks near Petersburg. The battle was a key turning
18 point, as it caused the fall of Richmond and led to the
19 surrender of the Northern Virginia Army.

20 (9) For their bravery, both men were awarded the
21 Congressional Medal of Honor. Both men are considered
22 hometown heroes to many in the Westmoreland County community.

23 (b) Designation.--The bridge, identified as Bridge Key
24 36247, carrying Pennsylvania Route 711 over Loyalhanna Creek in
25 Ligonier Township, Westmoreland County, is designated the
26 Sergeant Alvin P. Carey and Private John C. Ewing Medal of Honor
27 Memorial Bridge.

28 (c) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and
29 maintain appropriate signs displaying the name of the bridge to
30 traffic in both directions on the bridge.

1 Section 2. Effective date.

2 This act shall take effect in 60 days.