

SENATOR JIM RHOADES MEMORIAL BRIDGE - DESIGNATION

Act of Nov. 18, 2010, P.L. 994, No. 103

Cl. 87

AN ACT

Designating the State Street (SR4028) Bridge over the Schuylkill River in Hamburg Borough and Tilden Township, Berks County, as the Senator Jim Rhoades Memorial Bridge.

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

Section 1. Senator Jim Rhoades Memorial Bridge.

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

(1) James J. Rhoades was a Republican member of the Pennsylvania Senate who represented the 29th Senatorial District from 1980 until his untimely death on October 18, 2008, at the age of 66. At the time of his death, he was running for his eighth term in the Senate.

(2) Born December 5, 1941, in Waterbury, Connecticut, Rhoades graduated from East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in education and later earned a master's degree in education from Lehigh University in 1966.

(3) Rhoades began his professional career as a teacher and football coach at the Pottsville and Mahanoy City high schools. After seven years of teaching, Rhoades was appointed as the principal of the Mahanoy Area Middle School. He served as principal for ten years before his election to the Pennsylvania Senate.

(4) As a former educator, Rhoades had an interest in education issues and ultimately became chairman of the Education Committee of the Senate. As chairman of that committee, Rhoades had influence over almost all education policy, including policy initiatives that led to the Pennsylvania Safe Schools Act and the Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program.

(5) Rhoades also served on the Appropriations, Transportation, Law and Justice, and Environmental Resources and Energy committees.

(6) Rhoades died at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown a day after being injured in an automobile accident near Brodheadsville, Pennsylvania, in Monroe County.

(b) Designation.--The State Street (SR4028) Bridge over the Schuylkill River in Hamburg Borough and Tilden Township, Berks County, is designated as the Senator Jim Rhoades Memorial Bridge.

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

Section 2. Effective date.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.