

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1431 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY MASSER, GOODMAN, SCHLEGEL CULVER, HENNESSEY,
TOOHIL, YOUNGBLOOD, SAMUELSON, DERMODY, PETRARCA,
CALTAGIRONE, THOMAS, HELM, MALONEY, READSHAW, DIGIROLAMO,
MILLARD, SAINATO, O'BRIEN, CAUSER, WHEELAND, WARD, MARSICO,
FREEMAN, A. HARRIS, D. COSTA, SAYLOR, PETRI, DeLUCA, KORTZ,
BARBIN, MICCARELLI AND MARSHALL, MAY 23, 2017

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AMENDMENTS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

AN ACT

1 Designating that portion of State Routes 54, 901 and 2023 in
2 Northumberland County and Schuylkill County as the Honorable
3 Robert E. Belfanti, Jr., Memorial Highway; designating Exit
4 18 of State Route 43, known as the Searights Road
5 interchange, in Fayette County as the Staff Sgt. John P.
6 Wanto Vietnam Veteran Exit; designating Exit 15 of State
7 Route 43, known as the Old Pittsburgh Road interchange, in
8 Fayette County as the Lance Corporal Russell W. Naugle
9 Vietnam Veteran Exit; designating a bridge on that portion of
10 State Route 2003 over the Yellow Breeches Creek, South
11 Middleton Township, Cumberland County, as the Sgt. Adam C.
12 Schoeller Memorial Bridge; designating a portion of State
13 Route 18 in West Fallowfield Township, Crawford County, as
14 the Staff Sergeant James Douglas Mowris Memorial Highway;
15 designating a portion of State Route 100 from the
16 intersection of Main Street and Tilghman Street in Upper
17 Macungie Township, Lehigh County, to the intersection of
18 Claussville Road and Kernsville Road in Lowhill Township,
19 Lehigh County, as the Captain Mark T. Resh Memorial Highway;
20 designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 18
21 (College Avenue) over the Little Shenango River, Greenville
22 Borough, Mercer County, as the Greenville Veterans Memorial
23 Bridge; designating that portion of State Route 3078 and
24 State Route 3090 in York County from the intersection with
25 State Route 116 to the intersection with State Route 3042 as
26 the Private First Class Donald R. Gise Memorial Road;
27 designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 1005,
28 known as Church View Road, Segment 0180, Offset 0000, over

1 Beaver Creek, South Woodbury Township, Bedford County, as the
2 PFC/POW William G. Koontz Memorial Bridge; AND designating a <--
3 bridge on that portion of State Route 588 over Interstate
4 376, Chippewa Township, Beaver County, as the TFC Blake T.
5 Coble Memorial Bridge; ~~and designating the bridge carrying~~ <--
6 ~~State Route 3012 over the Susquehanna River between City~~
7 ~~Island and the intersection with State Route 1010 and State~~
8 ~~Route 1027, commonly referred to as the Market Street Bridge,~~
9 ~~as the Senator Harold Mowery Market Street Bridge.~~

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

12 Section 1. Honorable Robert E. Belfanti, Jr., Memorial Highway.

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

15 (1) The Honorable Robert E. Belfanti, Jr., represented
16 the 107th Legislative District, covering portions of
17 Columbia, Montour, Northumberland and Schuylkill Counties
18 from 1981 to 2010.

19 (2) During his 30 years in the House of Representatives,
20 Representative Belfanti served on numerous committees and was
21 chairperson of the Labor Relations Committee from 1993 to
22 2010.

23 (3) Representative Belfanti was active on numerous State
24 boards and commissions and championed workers, small
25 businesses, veterans and improved accessibility for the
26 disabled.

27 (4) Representative Belfanti attended Mount Carmel area
28 schools and was a lifelong scout, earning the rank of Eagle
29 Scout in 1962 and returning to scouting as an adult as a
30 charter member of Cub Scout Pack 3178.

31 (5) Representative Belfanti and his wife, Cecilia, were
32 instrumental in bringing scouting back to the Mount Carmel
33 area following a long dormancy, and Representative Belfanti
34 received numerous awards during his 25 years of service.

1 (6) Before becoming a State Representative,
2 Representative Belfanti enlisted in the United States Marine
3 Corps in 1967 and served a 13-month tour of duty in the
4 Vietnam War with helicopter units that supplied troops,
5 ammunition and medical supplies to Marines. His CH-46
6 helicopters, known as Sea Knights, were also the major means
7 for rescuing and providing medivacs for the wounded.

8 (7) Representative Belfanti rose to the rank of sergeant
9 before being honorably discharged in 1971. Among his
10 decorations were two Bronze Stars with Valor, the Combat
11 Action Ribbon, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Vietnam
12 Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry and the
13 Vietnam Service Medal.

14 (8) Representative Belfanti was active in numerous
15 veteran organizations and cofounded the Black Diamond
16 Detachment of the Marine Corps League, as well as a life
17 member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), AMVETS and
18 Veterans of the Vietnam War. Representative Belfanti was
19 named Veteran of the Year by the National War Veterans
20 Council and also received the Patriot of the Year award.

21 (9) Representative Belfanti's legacy includes saving the
22 former Shamokin State General Hospital from divestiture, the
23 opening of State Correctional Institution Coal Township,
24 resolving issues related to the Centralia mine fire, the
25 Shamokin Creek project, championing numerous abandoned mine
26 reclamation projects and helping with many rail improvement
27 and economic development projects in the district.

28 (10) Representative Belfanti was also instrumental in
29 securing funding for the State Route 901 widening project
30 from Locust Summit to Interstate 81, as well as the Strong

1 Connector improvement project.

2 (b) Designation.--The portion of State Routes 54 and 901 in
3 Northumberland County and Schuylkill County from the
4 intersection of State Route 54, State Route 901 and State Route
5 2023, also known as the Mount Carmel Merriam Highway, in Mount
6 Carmel Township, Northumberland County, to the intersection of
7 State Route 901, also known as Fairgrounds Road, and High Road
8 in Butler Township, Schuylkill County, is hereby designated as
9 the Honorable Robert E. Belfanti, Jr., Memorial Highway.

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

13 Section 2. Staff Sgt. John P. Wanto Vietnam Veteran Exit.

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

16 (1) Staff Sergeant John P. Wanto served with the United
17 States Army, A Company, First Battalion, 506th Infantry,
18 101st Airborne Division.

19 (2) On March 21, 1970, Staff Sergeant Wanto was killed
20 in action in Thua Thien Province, Vietnam.

21 (b) Designation.--Exit 18 of State Route 43, known as the
22 Searights Road interchange, in Fayette County is hereby
23 designated the Staff Sgt. John P. Wanto Vietnam Veteran Exit.

24 (c) Signs.--The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission shall erect
25 and maintain appropriate signs displaying the name of the exit
26 to traffic on the highway near the exit.

27 Section 3. Lance Corporal Russell W. Naugle Vietnam Veteran
28 Exit.

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

30 (1) Lance Corporal Russell W. Naugle served with the

1 United States Marine Corps, C Company, First Battalion, First
2 Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force.

3 (2) On February 15, 1968, Lance Corporal Naugle was
4 killed in action in Quang Nam Province, Vietnam.

5 (b) Designation.--Exit 15 of State Route 43, known as the
6 Old Pittsburgh Road interchange, in Fayette County is hereby
7 designated the Lance Corporal Russell W. Naugle Vietnam Veteran
8 Exit.

9 (c) Signs.--The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission shall erect
10 and maintain appropriate signs displaying the name of the exit
11 to traffic in both directions on the highway.

12 Section 4. Sgt. Adam C. Schoeller Memorial Bridge.

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

15 (1) Adam C. Schoeller was raised in South Middleton
16 Township and graduated from Boiling Springs High School in
17 2008.

18 (2) Sgt. Schoeller served his country honorably as a
19 United States Marine and was deployed during Operation
20 Enduring Freedom.

21 (3) On January 14, 2016, Sgt. Schoeller gave his life in
22 service to his country when his helicopter collided with
23 another helicopter off the coast of Oahu's Waimea Bay.

24 (4) Sgt. Schoeller's leadership, dedication and bravery
25 distinguish his outstanding service to his country, evidenced
26 by the numerous honors he received during his enlistment in
27 the United States Marine Corp, including the Navy and Marine
28 Corps Achievement Medal, Individual Air Medal, Strike/Fight
29 Air Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Sea
30 Service Deployment Ribbon, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal,

1 Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service
2 Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Navy Unit Commendation
3 and NATO Medal-ISAF Afghanistan.

4 (b) Designation.--The bridge located on State Route 2003
5 over the Yellow Breeches Creek, South Middleton Township,
6 Cumberland County, is hereby designated the Sgt. Adam C.
7 Schoeller Memorial Bridge.

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

11 Section 5. Staff Sergeant James Douglas Mowris Memorial
12 Highway.

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

15 (1) Staff Sergeant James Douglas Mowris, a native of
16 Adamsville, Crawford County, enlisted in the United States
17 Army in 1984 after graduation from Conneaut Lake High School.

18 (2) Over a period of nearly 20 years, Staff Sergeant
19 Mowris honorably served his country on active duty with the
20 United States Army and with the Army Reserve.

21 (3) Staff Sergeant Mowris served in operations in
22 locations across the globe, including Turkey, Saudi Arabia,
23 Somalia, Honduras, El Salvador, Kosovo, Cuba and Afghanistan.

24 (4) The distinguished military career of Staff Sergeant
25 Mowris ended on January 29, 2004, when he was killed along
26 with seven other soldiers in an explosion during the clearing
27 of an enemy weapons and ammunition cache in Ghazni,
28 Afghanistan.

29 (b) Designation.--The section of State Route 18 in West
30 Fallowfield Township, Crawford County, from the intersection

1 with State Route 322 to the Crawford/Mercer County Line is
2 designated as the Staff Sergeant James Douglas Mowris Memorial
3 Highway.

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

7 Section 6. Captain Mark T. Resh Memorial Highway.

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

10 (1) Captain Mark T. Resh, of Killen, Texas, was a native
11 of Fogelsville, Lehigh County, and a 1996 graduate of
12 Northwestern Lehigh High School, where he was a member of the
13 National Honor Society, math club and student council and was
14 captain of the varsity soccer team in his senior year.

15 (2) In 2001, Captain Resh graduated from the University
16 of Pittsburgh with a degree in engineering.

17 (3) Captain Resh served as an Apache helicopter pilot
18 with the United States Army, 4th Battalion, 227th Aviation
19 Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division in
20 support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

21 (4) On January 28, 2007, near An Najaf, Iraq, Captain
22 Resh placed the helicopter he was piloting in the direct line
23 of enemy fire so that another air crew that was under attack
24 could maneuver out of danger. Over the next 15 minutes, he
25 bravely flew in the face of intense enemy fire to support the
26 coalition ground forces until his aircraft was struck by
27 enemy fire and crashed, killing Captain Resh.

28 (5) Captain Resh was awarded the Purple Heart and the
29 Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in
30 action.

1 (b) Designation.--The section of State Route 100 from the
2 intersection of Main Street and Tilghman Street in Upper
3 Macungie Township, Lehigh County, to the intersection of
4 Claussville Road and Kernsville Road in Lowhill Township, Lehigh
5 County, is hereby designated as the Captain Mark T. Resh
6 Memorial Highway.

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

10 Section 7. Greenville Veterans Memorial Bridge.

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

13 (1) Greenville Borough, Mercer County, has been home to
14 many courageous military veterans who have fought for our
15 freedom.

16 (2) Every Memorial Day a ceremony is held at the bridge
17 on State Route 18 (College Avenue) over the Little Shenango
18 River during which the Greenville VFW drops a wreath into the
19 river in honor of those who have served in defense of the
20 United States.

21 (b) Designation.--The bridge located on State Route 18
22 (College Avenue) in Greenville Borough, Mercer County, over the
23 Little Shenango River is hereby designated the Greenville
24 Veterans Memorial Bridge.

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

28 Section 8. Private First Class Donald R. Gise Memorial Road.

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

1 (1) Private First Class Donald R. Gise, age 25, formerly
2 of Spring Grove Borough, York County, was killed in action on
3 October 4, 1968, while stationed in Mekong Delta, Vietnam,
4 while serving as an infantryman with the United States Army.

5 (2) Pfc. Gise was born on December 20, 1942, and
6 graduated from Spring Grove Area High School in 1960.

7 (3) Pfc. Gise was drafted into the Army in January 1968.

8 (4) Pfc. Gise was awarded the Bronze Star for his
9 service and his bravery.

10 (5) Pfc. Gise was survived by his wife, Linda Louis
11 Gise, whom he had married in 1963, and his son, Donald
12 Richard Gise, who was born 22 days after Pfc. Gise was killed
13 in action.

14 (b) Designation.--That portion of State Route 3078 and State
15 Route 3090 in York County from the intersection with State Route
16 116 to the intersection with State Route 3042 is hereby
17 designated the Private First Class Donald R. Gise Memorial Road.

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

21 Section 9. PFC/POW William G. Koontz Memorial Bridge.

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

24 (1) PFC William G. Koontz of New Enterprise, was drafted
25 into the United States Army during the Korean War.

26 (2) PFC Koontz arrived in South Korea on March 25, 1951,
27 and along with other new arrivals was given only five days of
28 basic combat training before being sent to the front lines.

29 (3) Less than a month later on April 22, 1951, the
30 Soviet-backed Chinese Red Army launched a massive assault

1 against the United Nations and American forces. PFC Koontz
2 was on the front lines that day with Company E, 24th
3 Division, Eighth Army.

4 (4) Company E's location was soon overtaken by the
5 Chinese and PFC Koontz along with 13 other men hid in a cave
6 to avoid capture. After four days without food or water, the
7 men were forced to surrender.

8 (5) PFC Koontz and his fellow soldiers were taken to a
9 temporary prison camp, from which they started a month-long
10 march north to a permanent camp in North Korea. Many of PFC
11 Koontz's companions did not survive the journey.

12 (6) For 888 days, PFC Koontz endured the brutal
13 conditions at the Chong-song prison camp, living in mud-
14 walled huts without sanitation and surviving on a diet
15 consisting mostly of infested grain while forced into hard
16 labor.

17 (7) On August 11, 1953, PFC Koontz was released by the
18 Chinese and eventually returned home to Pennsylvania, where
19 he reunited with his family and lived a full life with his
20 wife, to whom he was married for over 50 years, two sons,
21 grandchildren and many other relatives.

22 (8) For his heroism and sacrifice, PFC Koontz was
23 awarded the Good Conduct Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Theater
24 Ribbon, the World War II Victory Ribbon and the Army
25 Occupation Medal (Japan).

26 (b) Designation.--The bridge located on State Route 1005,
27 known as Church View Road, Segment 0180, Offset 0000, over
28 Beaver Creek, in South Woodbury Township, Bedford County, is
29 hereby designated the PFC/POW William G. Koontz Memorial Bridge.

30 (c) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and

1 maintain appropriate signs displaying the name of the bridge to
2 traffic in both directions on the bridge.

3 Section 10. TFC Blake T. Coble Memorial Bridge.

4 (a) Findings and declarations.--The General Assembly finds
5 and declares:

6 (1) Trooper First Class Blake T. Coble, a member of the
7 Pennsylvania State Police, passed away in the line of duty at
8 the age of 47, on October 4, 2012.

9 (2) Born in Pittsburgh on November 15, 1964, Trooper
10 First Class Coble was the son of Tom and Judy Clegg Coble.

11 (3) Trooper First Class Coble was a member of the
12 Pennsylvania State Police for more than 24 years, and he had
13 been attached to the Brighton Township Barracks for nearly 20
14 years.

15 (4) A beloved family member, dedicated police officer
16 and avowed community steward, Trooper First Class Coble
17 exemplified the best qualities of the human experience. He
18 generously gave of his heart and time to enhance the quality
19 of life of his family and community.

20 (b) Designation.--The bridge located on State Route 588 over
21 Interstate 376 in Chippewa Township, Beaver County, is hereby
22 designated the TFC Blake T. Coble Memorial Bridge.

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

26 ~~Section 11. Senator Harold Mowery Market Street Bridge.~~

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27 ~~(a) Findings. The General Assembly finds and declares as~~
28 ~~follows:~~

29 ~~(1) Harold F. Mowery, Jr., was born January 4, 1930, in~~
30 ~~Chambersburg and was raised in Mechanicsburg.~~

1 ~~(2) As a graduate of Mechanicsburg High School and~~
2 ~~Dickinson College, Mr. Mowery was a product of the~~
3 ~~Pennsylvania education system.~~

4 ~~(3) Mr. Mowery entered the insurance business in 1954~~
5 ~~and earned a chartered life underwriter degree. Over several~~
6 ~~decades, Mr. Mowery founded several highly successful~~
7 ~~insurance businesses which employed hundreds of~~
8 ~~Pennsylvanians.~~

9 ~~(4) Mr. Mowery was elected to the House of~~
10 ~~Representatives of Pennsylvania in 1976 and went on to serve~~
11 ~~seven terms. In the House of Representatives, Mr. Mowery~~
12 ~~achieved a reputation for expertise on fiscal and pension~~
13 ~~issues and advocated for the adoption of private sector~~
14 ~~business principles to the operation of public programs and~~
15 ~~State spending. He was also instrumental in establishing the~~
16 ~~Public Employee Retirement Commission.~~

17 ~~(5) In 1990, Mr. Mowery became part of State political~~
18 ~~history as the Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor~~
19 ~~on the ticket headed by Barbara Hafer.~~

20 ~~(6) In 1992, Mr. Mowery was elected to represent the~~
21 ~~31st District in the Senate of Pennsylvania. He served with~~
22 ~~distinction until his retirement in 2004.~~

23 ~~(7) During his time in the Senate, Senator Mowery~~
24 ~~enriched the lives of thousands as Chairperson of the Public~~
25 ~~Health and Welfare Committee and Vice Chairperson of the~~
26 ~~Education Committee. He also served as Vice Chairperson of~~
27 ~~the Legislative Data Processing Committee and as a rank and~~
28 ~~file member of numerous standing committees, including~~
29 ~~Banking and Insurance, Law and Justice and Labor and~~
30 ~~Industry.~~

1 ~~(8) During and after his public service career, Senator~~
2 ~~Mowery was a prominent community leader. He supported the~~
3 ~~establishment of the Camp Hill Lion Foundation to enhance~~
4 ~~academic, athletic and cultural resources. He was also a~~
5 ~~supporter of the Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts,~~
6 ~~the construction of the Grace Milliman Pollock Performing~~
7 ~~Arts Center and the performing arts, including the Harrisburg~~
8 ~~Symphony Orchestra. Senator Mowery aided many charities by~~
9 ~~sponsoring and supporting benefits, galas and community~~
10 ~~fundraisers.~~

11 ~~(9) Senator Mowery's professional achievements,~~
12 ~~extensive community involvement and the myriad of awards and~~
13 ~~accolades he received stand as strong testimony to his~~
14 ~~genuine concern for the well being of the Commonwealth and~~
15 ~~the people of the 31st Senatorial District.~~

16 ~~(10) By all accounts, Senator Mowery was a loving family~~
17 ~~man, a respected businessperson and a dedicated and~~
18 ~~accomplished public servant worthy of emulation for~~
19 ~~generations to come.~~

20 ~~(b) Designation. The bridge carrying State Route 3012 over~~
21 ~~the Susquehanna River between City Island and the intersection~~
22 ~~with State Route 1010 and State Route 1027, commonly referred to~~
23 ~~as the Market Street Bridge, is hereby designated as the Senator~~
24 ~~Harold Mowery Market Street Bridge.~~

25 ~~(c) Signs. The Department of Transportation shall erect and~~
26 ~~maintain architecturally appropriate signs displaying the name~~
27 ~~of the bridge to traffic in both directions on the bridge.~~

28 Section 12 11. Effective date.

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29 This act shall take effect in 60 days.