
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 917 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY STERN, GEIST AND FLECK, MARCH 3, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, MARCH 3, 2011

AN ACT

1 Designating the bridge carrying State Route 2014 over the
2 Beaverdam Branch of the Juniata River in Hollidaysburg
3 Borough, Blair County, as the Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Lightner
4 Memorial Bridge.

5 Section 1. Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Lightner Memorial Bridge.

6 (a) Declaration of policy.--The General Assembly finds and
7 declares as follows:

8 (1) Staff Sgt. Daniel R. Lightner, Jr., was a native of
9 Hollidaysburg, Blair County, and following graduation from
10 high school, Sgt. Lightner attended Lock Haven University and
11 received an associate's degree from Kansas City Community
12 College.

13 (2) Sgt. Lightner served in the United States Army from
14 1995 to 1998 and, upon completing his active duty, enlisted
15 in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard while working as a
16 corrections officer at the Federal prison in Lewisburg.

17 (3) Sgt. Lightner joined the Pennsylvania State Police
18 in 2003 and was assigned in 2004 to Troop J in Embreeville,
19 Chester County, where he served until his Guard unit was

1 activated in January 2005 for deployment to Iraq.

2 (4) At the Pennsylvania State Police Academy, Sgt.
3 Lightner, an avid runner, received an award as the cadet with
4 the highest physical fitness rating, and in the military he
5 received the Order of the Purple Heart, Army Achievement
6 Medal, Army Commendation Medal, German Marksmanship Medal,
7 Army Good Conduct Medal and National Defense Service Medal.

8 (5) Sgt. Lightner's unit was deployed to Iraq for the
9 purpose of providing security in the Ramadi Province, and on
10 October 27, 2005, Sgt. Lightner died from injuries received
11 when a roadside bomb struck his up-armored vehicle during
12 combat operations with the Army National Guard's 2nd Brigade
13 28th Stryker Division Combat Team. He was the first
14 Pennsylvania State Police officer killed in military action
15 since World War II.

16 (6) Sgt. Lightner, beloved son of Judy Ann Lightner and
17 beloved brother of Shannon, Shilo and Shonda, was
18 courageously serving his country and the campaign for
19 Operation Iraqi Freedom at the time of his death, and his
20 excellence as a soldier and State trooper has been extolled
21 by many.

22 (b) Designation.--State Route 2014 (Plank Road) over the
23 Beaverdam Branch of the Juniata River in Hollidaysburg Borough,
24 Blair County, is hereby designated as the Sgt. 1st Class Daniel
25 Lightner Memorial Bridge.

26 (c) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and
27 maintain appropriate signs to indicate the designation under
28 subsection (b).

29 Section 2. Effective date.

30 This act shall take effect in 60 days.