

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1252 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY BLAKE, MENSCH, ORIE, BAKER, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE,
McILHINNEY, M. WHITE, COSTA, HUGHES, SCHWANK, GREENLEAF,
BOSCOLA, PIPPY, SOLOBAY, BREWSTER, BRUBAKER, ALLOWAY, FERLO
AND BROWNE, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011

AN ACT

1 Redesignating Davis Street Bridge, over Interstate 81 at Exit
2 182, Moosic Borough, Lackawanna County, as the Andrew A.
3 Pompey and Durando J. Pompey Memorial Bridge.

4 WHEREAS, Andrew A. Pompey was the oldest son of Louis and
5 Regina Parlanti, born on May 1, 1917, in Minooka; and

6 WHEREAS, He volunteered for service in the United States Army
7 days after Pearl Harbor was inducted on February 7, 1942; and

8 WHEREAS, After basic training, he volunteered for a new
9 branch of the service, the parachute infantry; and

10 WHEREAS, He became part of the first parachute division in
11 United States Army history, the 82nd Airborne, and was assigned
12 to its first regiment, 504th PIR, nicknamed the "devils in baggy
13 pants" from a German officer's diary; and

14 WHEREAS, After parachute training, he and the rest of the
15 82nd Airborne were shipped to North Africa; and

16 WHEREAS, He participated in two combat jumps in active
17 combat, first in Sicily, Italy, where his plane was hit by

1 friendly fire, and next at Salerno, Italy, where he assisted in
2 saving the Allied beachhead, and he was promoted to the rank of
3 staff sergeant; and

4 WHEREAS, On January 26, 1944, Staff Sergeant Andrew A. Pompey
5 led his squad on an assault of a bridge spanning the Mussolini
6 Canal near Sassano, Italy, and was killed by artillery; and

7 WHEREAS, Initially, he was buried at the American Cemetery at
8 Nettuno, Italy; and

9 WHEREAS, Later, he was exhumed and reinterred at the Italian-
10 American Cemetery adjacent to Davis Street, Scranton, near the
11 Davis Street Bridge; and

12 WHEREAS, Durando J. Pompey was born on September 1, 1921, to
13 Louis and Regina Parlanti Pompey in Minooka; and

14 WHEREAS, He also volunteered for the United States Army and
15 was inducted on September 7, 1942; and

16 WHEREAS, After basic training, he married Helen Rovinski on
17 May 3, 1943; and

18 WHEREAS, In February 1944, he was shipped to England in
19 anticipation of the invasion of Europe; and

20 WHEREAS, He landed with his division on June 8, 1944, on
21 Omaha Beach; and

22 WHEREAS, Shortly after landing on Omaha Beach, the division
23 went on attack through the French hedgerows toward Pont Hebert
24 and St. Lo; and

25 WHEREAS, On July 13, 1944, the Germans preceded a
26 counterattack with a concentrated artillery barrage, and Private
27 First Class Durando J. Pompey was killed in that barrage; and

28 WHEREAS, He was initially buried in Le Combe Cemetery in
29 France and later exhumed at the request of his wife and
30 reinterred in the American Cemetery in Long Island, New York.

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

3 Section 1. Andrew A. Pompey and Durando J. Pompey Memorial
4 Bridge.

5 (a) Redesignation.--The Davis Street Bridge, over Interstate
6 81 at Exit 182, Moosic Borough, Lackawanna County, is
7 redesignated as the Andrew A. Pompey and Durando J. Pompey
8 Memorial Bridge.

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

12 Section 2. Effective Date.

13 This act shall take effect in 60 days.