

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1401 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY SCARNATI AND RAFFERTY, JUNE 2, 2014

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
JUNE 30, 2014

AN ACT

1 Renaming the West Chestnut Street Bridge in Coudersport Borough,
2 Potter County, as the Private Edwin Tubbs Memorial Bridge;
3 ~~and~~ renaming the State Route 872 Bridge near Coudersport <--
4 Borough/Eulalia Township Border, Potter County, as the
5 Specialist Donald Stiles Memorial Bridge-; DESIGNATING A <--
6 BRIDGE ON THAT PORTION OF S.R. 49 OVER THE COWANESQUE RIVER
7 BETWEEN DENNIS HILL ROAD AND CHURCH STREET IN HARRISON
8 TOWNSHIP, POTTER COUNTY, AS THE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ROGER P.
9 DOWNEY MEMORIAL BRIDGE; AND DESIGNATING A BRIDGE ON THAT
10 PORTION OF STATE ROUTE 56, PARTIALLY IN SEWARD BOROUGH,
11 WESTMORELAND COUNTY, AND PARTIALLY IN EAST WHEATFIELD
12 TOWNSHIP, INDIANA COUNTY, OVER THE CONEMAUGH RIVER AS THE
13 PFC. JAMES E. LUDWIG MEMORIAL BRIDGE.

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

16 Section 1. Private Edwin Tubbs Memorial Bridge.

17 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds and declares that:

18 (1) Private Edwin Franklin Tubbs left Coudersport High
19 School in August of 1967 and entered into the United States
20 Army.

21 (2) Private Tubbs deployed to Vietnam with D Company,
22 Sixth Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, Ninth Infantry
23 Division on December 4, 1968, and was stationed at Dinh

1 Tuong, South Vietnam.

2 (3) On January 12, 1969, Private Tubbs was fatally
3 wounded as he set down his rifle to assist a fellow soldier
4 who was injured on the battlefield.

5 (4) During his service in the United States Army Private
6 Tubbs received the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart.

7 (b) Change of name.--The bridge in Coudersport Borough,
8 Potter County, known as the West Chestnut Street Bridge is
9 hereby renamed the Private Edwin Tubbs Memorial Bridge.

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

13 Section 2. Specialist Donald Stiles Memorial Bridge.

14 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds and declares that:

15 (1) Specialist Donald Stiles enlisted in the United
16 States Army at 17 years of age.

17 (2) Specialist Stiles was deployed to Vietnam as an
18 atomic demolition munitions specialist, with A Battery, First
19 Battalion, Seventh Artillery, First Infantry Division.

20 (3) On April 2, 1968, Specialist Stiles was killed in
21 action in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam, after taking a
22 fellow soldier's place on a mission and being hit by bomb
23 fragments from a land mine.

24 (b) Change of name.--The State Route 872 Bridge near
25 Coudersport Borough/Eulalia Township Border, Potter County, is
26 hereby renamed the Specialist Donald Stiles Memorial Bridge.

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

30 SECTION 3. PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ROGER P. DOWNEY BRIDGE.

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1 (A) FINDINGS.--

2 (1) PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (PFC) ROGER P. DOWNEY WAS BORN
3 ON JANUARY 20, 1926 AND GREW UP ON A SMALL FARM IN ULYSSES,
4 PENNSYLVANIA.

5 (2) WHILE A TEENAGER, PFC DOWNEY WOULD USE THE BRIDGE ON
6 THAT PORTION OF S.R. 49 OVER THE COWANESQUE RIVER TO ATTEND
7 HARRISON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL IN MILLS, PENNSYLVANIA.

8 (3) WHILE THIS NATION WAS IN THE MIDST OF WORLD WAR II,
9 PFC DOWNEY LEFT SCHOOL TO JOIN THE UNITED STATES ARMY ON
10 APRIL 19, 1944.

11 (4) AFTER INFANTRY TRAINING IN VIRGINIA AND OTHER PARTS
12 OF THE NATION, PFC DOWNEY TRAVELED TO MASSACHUSETTS FOR
13 STAGING BEFORE BEING TRANSPORTED ON THE SS MARINE RAVEN TO
14 ENGLAND IN NOVEMBER 1944.

15 (5) IN JANUARY 1945, PFC DOWNEY AND HIS UNIT WERE SENT
16 TO REINFORCE AND RELIEVE UNITS ENGAGED IN THE FAMOUS BATTLE
17 OF THE BULGE IN THE ARDENNES FOREST OF BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG
18 AND GERMANY.

19 (6) PFC DOWNEY WAS KILLED IN ACTION IN GERMANY ON MARCH
20 9, 1945, WHILE ASSIGNED TO COMPANY B, 417 INFANTRY REGIMENT,
21 76 INFANTRY DIVISION, XII CORP, THIRD ARMY, TWELFTH ARMY
22 GROUP, EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS HEADQUARTERED IN THE
23 TOWN OF SPEICHER IN THE RHINELAND REGION OF GERMANY.

24 (B) DESIGNATION.--THE BRIDGE LOCATED ON S.R. 49 OVER THE
25 COWANESQUE RIVER BETWEEN DENNIS HILL ROAD AND CHURCH STREET IN
26 HARRISON TOWNSHIP, POTTER COUNTY, IS HEREBY DESIGNATED THE
27 PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ROGER P. DOWNEY 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 4. PFC. JAMES E. LUDWIG MEMORIAL BRIDGE.

2 (A) DESIGNATION.--THE BRIDGE LOCATED ON STATE ROUTE 56,
3 PARTIALLY IN SEWARD BOROUGH, WESTMORELAND COUNTY, AND PARTIALLY
4 IN EAST WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP, INDIANA COUNTY, OVER THE CONEMAUGH
5 RIVER, IS HEREBY DESIGNATED THE PFC. JAMES E. LUDWIG MEMORIAL
6 BRIDGE.

7 (B) SIGNS.--THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL ERECT AND
8 MAINTAIN APPROPRIATE SIGNS DISPLAYING THE NAME OF THE BRIDGE TO
9 TRAFFIC IN BOTH DIRECTIONS ON THE BRIDGE.

10 Section 3 5. Effective date.

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11 This act shall take effect in 60 days.