

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1260 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY BURNS, DONATUCCI, ELLIS, COHEN, SONNEY, DUSH, THOMAS, KNOWLES, KINSEY, METZGAR, DIGIROLAMO, YOUNGBLOOD, COX, MILLARD, BARRAR, McNEILL, HEFFLEY, TALLMAN, LONGIETTI, READSHAW, BENNINGHOFF, WHEELAND, SANKEY, FARINA, RAPP, MURT, KILLION, PAYNE, HAHN, KIM, W. KELLER, MAJOR, WARD, GROVE, DEASY, GIBBONS, GOODMAN AND A. HARRIS, JUNE 1, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, JUNE 1, 2015

AN ACT

1 Renaming the bridge on that portion of Township Route 431/436,
2 Cooney Road, over US Route 22 in Munster Township, Cambria
3 County, as the PFC Thomas A. Cooney Memorial Bridge.

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

6 Section 1. PFC Thomas A. Cooney Memorial Bridge.

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

9 (1) Private First Class Thomas A. Cooney of the United
10 States Army Corps of Engineers was posthumously awarded the
11 Silver Star for gallantry in action in France on October 20,
12 1944.

13 (2) PFC Cooney was born on April 28, 1917, a son of Mr.
14 and Mrs. Charles Cooney of Cambria County.

15 (3) PFC Cooney and his three brothers were raised on a
16 farm outside the Borough of Lilly, Cambria County.

1 (4) While serving in the European Theater of Operations
2 on October 20, 1944, PFC Cooney encountered heavy sniper and
3 machine gun fire as he and his fellow engineers bravely
4 cleared mines along a strategically important road in France.

5 (5) PFC Cooney, who had volunteered for the mine removal
6 mission, continued his sweep in the face of enemy observation
7 and direct hostile fire.

8 (6) Having sought cover as ordered, PFC Cooney was later
9 killed in action along with three other engineers when a
10 delayed-action mine detonated.

11 (b) Change of name.--The bridge on that portion of Township
12 Route 431/436, Cooney Road, over US Route 22 in Munster
13 Township, Cambria County, is hereby renamed the PFC Thomas A.
14 Cooney Memorial Bridge.

15 (c) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and
16 maintain appropriate signs which shall display the name of the
17 bridge designated in subsection (b).

18 Section 2. Effective date.

19 This act shall take effect in 60 days.