

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 824 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY PITTMAN, AUGUST 15, 2019

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, AUGUST 15, 2019

AN ACT

1 Designating the bridge, identified as Bridge Key 19010, on that  
 2 portion of United States Route 119 over the Yellow Creek in  
 3 Center Township, Indiana County, as the Dr. Patricia  
 4 Hilliard-Robertson Memorial Bridge.

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

7 Section 1. Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Robertson Memorial Bridge.

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

10 (1) Patricia Hilliard-Robertson lived a life of service  
 11 to others and as an exemplary role model for women in STEM  
 12 education.

13 (2) Dr. Hilliard-Robertson was born on March 12, 1963,  
 14 in Indiana and grew up in Homer City. Dr. Hilliard-Robertson  
 15 graduated from Homer Center High School and the Indiana  
 16 University of Pennsylvania, where she earned a bachelor of  
 17 science degree in biology in 1985.

18 (3) In 1989, Dr. Hilliard-Robertson earned a medical  
 19 degree from the Medical College of Pennsylvania. She then

1 completed a three-year residency in family medicine and was  
2 certified by the American Board of Family Practice.

3 (4) From 1992 to 1995, Dr. Hilliard-Robertson practiced  
4 medicine in Erie, Pennsylvania. She was on the staff of St.  
5 Vincent Hospital where she served as the clinical coordinator  
6 for medical students in training and also provided training  
7 and supervision for resident physicians.

8 (5) In 1995, Dr. Hilliard-Robertson was one of two  
9 fellows selected to study aerospace medicine at the  
10 University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), Galveston and at  
11 the Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas.

12 (6) While enrolled as a space medicine fellow, Dr.  
13 Hilliard-Robertson completed a research project where she  
14 studied eccentric and concentric resistive exercise  
15 countermeasures for space flight. She also served as a member  
16 of the faculty at UTMB in the departments of Family Medicine  
17 and Emergency Medicine.

18 (7) In 1997, Dr. Hilliard-Robertson joined the Flight  
19 Medicine Clinic at Johnson Space Center and served as the  
20 Chairman of the Bone, Muscle and Exercise Integrated Product  
21 Team.

22 (8) In 1998, NASA selected Dr. Hilliard-Robertson for  
23 the Astronaut Candidate Training program. Upon completing  
24 training, Dr. Hilliard-Robertson served as the office  
25 representative for the Crew Healthcare System (CheCS) and as  
26 Crew Support Astronaut (CSA) for the International Space  
27 Station Expedition-2 Crew.

28 (9) Dr. Hilliard-Robertson passed away on May 24, 2001.

29 (b) Designation.--The bridge, identified as Bridge Key  
30 19010, located on that portion of United States Route 119 over

1 the Yellow Creek in Center Township, Indiana County, is  
2 designated the Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Robertson Memorial Bridge.

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

6 Section 2. Effective date.

7 This act shall take effect in 60 days.