

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 396 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY BARTOLOTTA, MARCH 11, 2021

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, MARCH 11, 2021

AN ACT

1 Designating the bridge, identified as Bridge Key 35000, on that  
 2 portion of State Route 2040 in Bentleyville Borough,  
 3 Washington County, as the Mrs. Madeline Finney Memorial  
 4 Bridge.

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

7 Section 1. Mrs. Madeline Finney Memorial Bridge.

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

10 (1) In 1966, Mrs. Madeline (Madge) Finney decided  
 11 something must be done about a small bridge, built in 1908 to  
 12 span Pigeon Creek, in her town of Bentleyville, Pennsylvania,  
 13 that was simply too small for what was then "modern traffic."

14 (2) Mrs. Finney recognized how unsafe it was for the  
 15 more than 60 children that crossed the bridge twice daily to  
 16 go to and from school, including six of her own children.

17 (3) Mrs. Finney spearheaded the four-year campaign to  
 18 expand the bridge.

19 (4) In a letter to then State Senator William J. Lane,

1 she wrote, "I do not intend to let this Highway Department  
2 have any peace until something is done about this bridge."

3 (5) Mrs. Finney also oversaw the letter writing campaign  
4 of 95 children and numerous adults to Governor William  
5 Scranton.

6 (6) The bridge was completed in 1970.

7 (7) Mrs. Finney died on July 12, 2020.

8 (8) Mrs. Finney's tireless work saved the lives of  
9 countless people by fighting for the expansion of this  
10 bridge.

11 (b) Designation.--The bridge, identified as Bridge Key  
12 35000, on that portion of State Route 2040 in Bentleyville  
13 Borough, Washington County, is designated as the Mrs. Madeline  
14 Finney Memorial Bridge.

15 (c) Signs.--The Department of Transportation shall erect and  
16 maintain appropriate signs displaying the name of the bridge to  
17 traffic northbound and southbound on the bridge.

18 Section 2. Effective date.

19 This act shall take effect in 60 days.