

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 655 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY LANGERHOLC, APRIL 25, 2023

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, APRIL 25, 2023

AN ACT

1 Designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8555, carrying  
 2 State Route 1007 over Chest Creek on the border of Allegheny  
 3 Township and East Carroll Township, Cambria County, as the  
 4 Sergeant Regis H. Driskel Memorial Bridge.

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

7 Section 1. Sergeant Regis H. Driskel Memorial Bridge.

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

10 (1) Sergeant Regis H. Driskel was born October 23, 1923,  
 11 in Loretto.

12 (2) Prior to his military service, Sergeant Driskel  
 13 worked at Sanctis Construction, Inc., in Pittsburgh and Paul  
 14 Construction Company, Inc., in Cresson.

15 (3) Sergeant Driskel enlisted in the United States Army  
 16 on June 28, 1944, in New Cumberland.

17 (4) Sergeant Driskel was serving with the 309th  
 18 Infantry, 78th Division, when he was killed in action.

19 (5) Sergeant Driskel and his unit were driving toward

1 Germany in the final months of World War II, with the  
2 objective of capturing bridges and dams prior to the German  
3 forces destroying them.

4 (6) Sergeant Driskel and his unit were attempting to  
5 capture Schwammenauel Dam when the unit saw heavy combat,  
6 which resulted in Sergeant Driskel's death on February 6,  
7 1945.

8 (7) Sergeant Driskel was posthumously awarded the Purple  
9 Heart for his service and sacrifice for our nation.

10 (8) Sergeant Driskel is buried at the Netherlands  
11 American Cemetery in Margraten, Netherlands, which Mia  
12 Wetzler took care of for 52 years as a display of her  
13 gratitude for the sacrifice given for the liberation of her  
14 country, the Netherlands.

15 (b) Designation.--The bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8555,  
16 carrying State Route 1007 over Chest Creek on the border of  
17 Allegheny Township and East Carroll Township, Cambria County, is  
18 designated as the Sergeant Regis H. Driskel Memorial Bridge.

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

22 Section 2. Effective date.

23 This act shall take effect in 60 days.