

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 59
By Tidwell

A RESOLUTION to designate a certain segment of U.S. Highway 70 in New Johnsonville as the "Representative William H. Collier Parkway."

WHEREAS, from time to time, this General Assembly has seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor those citizens who give unselfishly of their time to serve their state, community, family, and friends; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean could be more deserving of this special honor than William Hugh (Bill) Collier, a former state representative who served his constituents honorably and with distinction; and

WHEREAS, Bill Collier truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated and proficient public servant, and he has often exceeded the call of duty to ensure that his constituents and, indeed all Tennesseans, are being well served by their government; and

WHEREAS, Representative Collier is one of six children born and raised by Coleman and Gerlene Collier in the Big Richland Creek area; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Collier proudly served his country when he joined the U.S. Army in 1945; and

WHEREAS, after being honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in October, 1946, Bill Collier returned to his native Humphreys County to finish high school; and

WHEREAS, after attending Middle Tennessee Normal College at Murfreesboro during 1947, Representative Bill Collier returned again to Humphreys County and entered the restaurant business; and

WHEREAS, when the Johnsonville Steam Plant opened, he joined the Ironworkers Union and worked for the Tennessee Valley Authority for ten years; and

WHEREAS, in 1957, Representative Collier became a part-time realtor and moved to full-time status in 1960; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Collier also has a second career as an auctioneer and served for two years on the Tennessee Auctioneer Commission, was a member of the National and Tennessee Auctioneers associations, and was awarded the Tennessee Auctioneers Hall of Fame Award in 1978; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a peerless public servant, Bill Collier has also been a devoted husband to Patty Fowlkes Collier and a loving father to his son, Daniel, his daughter, Allison, and his stepson, Greg Gunn; and

WHEREAS, despite his busy schedule, Representative Collier has been involved in a number of civic activities and clubs, including meritorious service as a member of the Rotary Club; a board member of the Humphreys County Area Chamber of Commerce; a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, Scottish Rite; Order of the Mystic Shrine; a former exalted ruler of Waverly Lodge for the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; a member of the American Legion; and a former commander of Waverly Post #4975 for the Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

WHEREAS, Bill Collier and his wife are also members of the Waverly Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Collier has always been an active and proficient participant in the government of Humphreys County; from 1972-1978, he served as magistrate as a member of the old County Court and on the Waverly Planning Commission during 1978 to 1982; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, Bill Collier was elected as a member of the House of Representatives during the 94th General Assembly and was re-elected for four additional terms, serving for a total of ten outstanding years; and

WHEREAS, while ably representing the good people of House District 74 in the General Assembly, Representative Collier developed a close, personal friendship with Governor Ned McWherter which resulted in the widening and improvement of U.S. Highway 70 that runs through New Johnsonville in his district; and

WHEREAS, despite some health ailments, Bill Collier still visits his office at Humphreys County's oldest real estate firm on a daily basis and attends all auction sales; he is very much sought after for his advice and opinion on many important issues; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the improvements made to U.S. Highway 70, it now better serves industry, river-based recreation, and other travelers throughout this region; and

WHEREAS, because it was Representative Collier's hard work and noble efforts that brought the four-mile modernization and beautification of U.S. Highway 70 to its fruition, it is the desire of the council of the City of New Johnsonville, Tennessee, that the section of the U.S. Highway 70 located within such city be designated the "Representative William H. Collier Parkway"; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly most heartily concurs in this excellent proposal; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the segment of U.S. Highway 70 within the corporate limits of the City of

New Johnsonville is hereby designated as the "Representative William H. Collier Parkway" as a lasting tribute to this exemplary public servant, dedicated husband and father, and remarkable human being.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs designating such segment of U.S. Highway 70 as the "Representative William H. Collier Parkway."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation, and to the presiding officer of the City Council of New Johnsonville.