

SENATE BILL 923

By Clabough

AN ACT to designate a certain segment of Interstate 140 as the "Senator Carl O. Koella, Jr. Memorial Highway".

WHEREAS, the elected members of this General Assembly desire to pay tribute to the late Senator Carl O. Koella, Jr. for his exemplary public service as a representative of the Eighth Senatorial District, comprised over the years of all or parts of Blount, Sevier, Loudon, Monroe and Knox counties; and

WHEREAS, Carl Koella truly epitomized the ideal of the dedicated and proficient public servant, and he often exceeded the call of duty to ensure that his constituents and, indeed all Tennesseans, were being well served by their government; and

WHEREAS, Senator Koella made significant contributions to the economic development of Blount County, helping to found the Peninsula Hospital in that county; and

WHEREAS, Senator Koella demonstrated tremendous leadership on transportation issues, particularly in the development of U.S. Highway 321 and the Pellissippi Highway, and was an ardent supporter of the Scenic Highway Bill; and

WHEREAS, a leader on education issues, Senator Koella was also a staunch advocate of tourism in Townsend, helping to secure the construction of the Visitor's Center in that fair city; and

WHEREAS, it is important that the members of this body establish a lasting tribute dedicated to the memory of our longtime friend and colleague; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, that segment of Interstate Highway 140 beginning at its intersection with Interstate 40 in Knox County to its terminus at U.S. Highway 321 in Blount County is hereby designated as the "Senator Carl O. Koella, Jr., Memorial Highway as a lasting tribute to this exemplary public servant.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs designating such segment of Interstate Highway 140 as the "Senator Carl O. Koella, Jr. Memorial Highway".

SECTION 3. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 4. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.