

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 97
By Springer

A RESOLUTION to name a certain bridge in Dickson County in honor of the late Edward Franklin Burnett.

WHEREAS, from time to time, this general assembly has seen fit to name certain public byways in honor of those outstanding public servants whose efforts have redounded to the great benefit of all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this special recognition than the late Edward Franklin Burnett, who served with the greatest integrity, intelligence and industry as a bridge builder from 1953 until 1972; and

WHEREAS, on December 4, 1943, Edward heeded the call of his country and entered the U.S. armed forces; and

WHEREAS, after completing basic training at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, Edward shipped out to the Philippines on February 4, 1946, and served 21 honorable months in the Asiatic Pacific Theater; and

WHEREAS, after returning to the United States, he met Dorothy Tefteller and married this exceptional lady on September 13, 1947; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Burnett continued his education after completing his military service; he graduated from Lawrenceburg Automobile School in 1951, with an emphasis in auto body and fender repair; and

WHEREAS, in 1953, Edward began his meritorious career with the Oman Construction Company; and

WHEREAS, for several years, he moved his family all over the state of Tennessee building bridges; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 1959, Edward met a former Oman Construction Company employee who had recently graduated from college and had a new and fresh outlook on building bridges; and

WHEREAS, Edward and his newfound friend, T. Benson McKinnon, began working assiduously on their first project in Dickson, Tennessee building a bridge on State Route 48 (North Main Street) that spans the U.S. Highway 70 By-Pass; and

WHEREAS, in August of 1960, Edward moved his family to the Dickson community because he respected the integrity and valued the fellowship of the good people who lived there; and

WHEREAS, on January 13, 1972, Edward lost his life while working on a project on Interstate-24 near Athens, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, because he unselfishly contributed his time and efforts to building the bridge on State Route 48 (North Main Street) that spans the U.S. Highway 70 By-Pass, and because this bridge literally brought him and his family to Dickson, it has been proposed by the Dickson City Council that this bridge be named to honor Mr. Edward Franklin Burnett's august memory; and

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

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the bridge on State Route 48 (North Main Street) that spans the Highway

70 By-pass in the city of Dickson is hereby designated as the “Edward Franklin Burnett Memorial Bridge” as a lasting tribute to this gifted and highly respected gentleman.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department of Transportation is hereby directed to erect suitable signs or affix suitable markers designating such bridge as the “Edward Franklin Burnett Memorial Bridge”.

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 a copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation and that one additional copy be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation, with this final clause omitted from such copies.